

Welcome to our world...

INTER RELOCATION'S SURVIVAL GUIDE TO BUDAPEST

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- › Banking in Hungary
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SECTION 1.

Pre-Arrival Information

The Home finding process

WHAT HAPPENS ON YOUR HOME SEARCH TRIP?

The following provides you with an outline of the steps involved in a typical Home search process..

1. INITIATION

- › Our international partner, the Human Recourses department or the customer contact us with a request for a home search process.
- › A relocation questionnaire and housing requirement form is then typically sent to the customer if this has not already been sent to Inter Relocation by the company managing the relocation process.

2. EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND DELEGATION

- › The customer completes and returns the required questionnaires, either to Inter Relocation's consultant or to the company managing the relocation, as appropriate
- › The housing needs are then assessed internally
- › Typically then there would be a call with the customer to discuss the home search process in more detail





3. SCREENING / SCHEDULING

- › Inter Relocation's consultant screens the real estate market via a range of real estate agents, collates a list of properties meeting the customer's criteria, and then sends it to the customer (photos and descriptions) via e-mail for pre-selection.
- › The customer chooses the properties they would like to view, in cooperation with Inter Relocation's consultant. The consultant then makes appointments with the real estate agencies according to an agreed schedule.

4. ON THE ROAD

- › Inter Relocation's consultant typically meets the customer at their hotel and accompanies them and their family, where applicable, on the scheduled visits. Inter Relocation's role is to only show properties that conform to the customer's given criteria, even if this means showing fewer properties. Visits are normally programmed for 1-2 days, depending on the availability of properties and the amount of time authorized for the service.

5. SECURING THE PROPERTY

- › Once the customer has short-listed one, or preferably two properties, Inter Relocation informs the landlord of the chosen property that the customer is interested, and confirms the details to the International Account Manager or local HR Department. It's important to note that a property cannot be reserved in Hungary and until a lease contract is signed by both parties, there is no guarantee the property will not be rented to someone else.
- › Inter Relocation's consultant prepares a draft lease contract that is sent to the landlord for review and then completes a negotiation process between the two parties, with the goal of securing the property with the best possible deal for the tenant/user.
- › The lease contract is approved by all relevant parties.
- › Inter Relocation's consultant organizes the signature of the lease.
- › For certain properties (low budget), reserving a property requires a half deposit.

6. ARRIVAL & HANDOVER IN

- › Inter Relocation's consultant organizes a meeting where the property is officially handed over.
- › Inter Relocation's consultant, the landlord and the customer check the utility meter readings, the physical condition of the property and the inventory list and then sign the handover inspection report. Both parties have the right to make any comments on the report.
- › Inter Relocation's consultant takes pictures of all rooms of the property, the exterior of the house and the garden, where applicable.
- › The keys are handed over to the customer.

7. FOLLOW-UP

- › Inter Relocation's consultant provides the Landlord, customer, Human Resources Department and the International Account Manager (as required) a copy of the lease contract, and the handover inspection report.
- › Inter Relocation follows up on the Home search service with a quality evaluation, which is either issued by Inter Relocation or by its international partner.

The above describes a typical home search process. Inter Relocation prides itself on providing a personalized service however, which means we always adapt to the requirements of our clients and partners.

HELPING US TO HELP YOU

› Give us as much notice as possible

Inter Relocation doesn't have its own database of properties, but is in contact with the largest and best real estate agencies in Budapest, as well as in other major cities across the country. Collecting and selecting the best properties takes time. The more notice we have of when the home search will take place, the better the selection of properties we will show. We would need a minimum of 3-4 working days to plan a home search visit and ideally two weeks or more.

› Give us as much detailed information as possible on your Relocation Questionnaire and Housing Requirement Form

All the elements requested in this form (budget, family size, tenancy details, housing requirements, preferences, etc.) will help us to target the right properties. If we feel that your criteria are not realistic when compared to the Hungarian/Budapest real estate market, we will call you to discuss your expectations and work with you to find a solution.

› Provide us with all documents needed for setting up the lease contract as soon as possible

A copy of your passport if you sign the lease contract yourself or official company documents like a specimen of signature, if the company is going to sign the lease contract.

› Second or third choice property

There are times when the deal on the property you have chosen will fall through. There can be many reasons for this, but the most common is that the landlord has several potential tenants wanting the same property and another party makes a more attractive offer. To avoid disappointment, it is always good to have in mind a second or even a third choice property, which we will then immediately attempt to secure for you.

› Let your Relocation Consultant guide you

Remember that he or she has extensive knowledge of the property market and will be able to advise on all aspects of the properties you are viewing. Do not feel pressured into making a decision but at the same time, be aware that the market moves very quickly. If you find a suitable property, we will encourage you to reserve it rapidly, to minimize the risk of losing it.



Budapest Sights and History

Budapest is one of the most beautiful cities in the world. That it has developed where it is, is not down to some historical accident. Take a look at Gellért Hill, right next to the River Danube as it flows majestically through the centre of the modern city. It was precisely the combination of the relative ease of crossing the River here and the natural protection the hill offered against invasion that persuaded the earliest settlers it was the ideal place to build a town.

There are plenty of other capital cities built on the banks of a river, and in many cases the river runs through the historic centre. But such a wide and majestic river, as is the Danube at Budapest, is more of a rarity. Even more exceptional is the perfect contrast between the right and left banks. Buda is built upon hills, the feet of two of them - Castle Hill and Gellért Hill - almost stand in the water. Facing it is Pest, lacking the hills of its sister and generally considered to include downtown Budapest.

It's no exaggeration to say that Budapest is one of the finest capital cities in Europe, and also one of the best situated. Among the several places in Hungary that have been afforded the classification of UNESCO World Heritage Site, the first were the Danube panorama [on the Buda side from the Gellért Hotel all along Castle Hill to Margit Bridge, and on the Pest side from the Parliament back down to Petőfi Bridge], and Andrassy út [along its entire length from the centre of Pest to Hősök tere, where the Millenary Monument stands on the edge of the City Park].

At the time of the Magyar Conquest in 896, the first Hungarian tribes settled in the plains to the east. They migrated to the hills further west later on to take advantage of the greater protection they offered. Buda became the royal seat in the thirteenth century and saw the court's rising status reflected in the building of ever more splendid palaces and the expansion of the town into a flowering middle class town. Pest at this time was a town of merchants and artisans.



1873 was a milestone in the history of Budapest, as it was in this year that the three separate settlements of Pest, Buda and Óbuda [literally Old Buda] were united. The newly coined "Budapest" was named the official capital city of Hungary and underwent an unprecedented growth in size, wealth, and development. But this wasn't just a golden period for the city; it coincided with the millennial celebrations of 1896, marking 1,000 years of the Magyar state.

Budapest, now home to approximately two million inhabitants, would appear countless times on any list of superlatives. Innovation and invention have coloured Hungarian history: the father of the electric railway, Kálmán Kandó, lived here [it should be no surprise, then, that the first underground railway in mainland Europe was also built here], and János Irinyi, one of the early developers of safety matches built a factory here in 1840. Pioneering

forces in Hollywood, from legendary actresses to celebrated film makers, listed Budapest as their hometown, while today it is used as a backdrop for many movies. Two of Hungary's most celebrated composers, Béla Bartók and Zoltán Kodály, lived in Budapest, and Nobel Prize-winning Hungarian author Imre Kertész was born here. Pál Erdős, arguably one of the world's most prominent mathematicians, was born here as well.

Hungary's oldest academic library, the University Library, can be found in Budapest, as can Europe's largest synagogue. It is the only capital city in the world where there are more than 100 hot thermal springs. There is no city of comparable size anywhere in the world where visitors can explore dripstone (stalactite) caves in the middle of a residential district. It would also be difficult to find another city where visitors are faced with such a choice in their transport! From buses, trams, and trolleybuses, to trains, metros, cogwheel, funicular, and forest railways, from horse-and-traps, chair-lifts, cars, and boats, to bicycles, and, on Margit Sziget, the "bringóhintó" family cycle cars, Budapest has them all! Let's choose one, and set off along the World Heritage streets.

Budapest's Districts and Surroundings

AN OVERVIEW OF BUDAPEST DISTRICTS

Budapest has many different faces, and this versatility makes it ideal, no matter what your specific needs are regarding housing. When it comes to choosing the location of your future home, there are many factors to consider. The next section is meant to help you make those choices by introducing Budapest's districts.

After the unification of the cities of Pest, Buda and Óbuda in 1873, Budapest was organized into 10 districts:

- > Buda: Districts I, II.
- > Óbuda: District III.
- > Pest: Districts IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X.

During the 1930s and 1950s, neighboring towns and villages were annexed to Budapest to create Districts XI through XXII. The 23rd District was established in 1994. Budapest Districts are easy to locate by their



postal codes. The middle two numbers in a postal code indicate the district number; so, 1138 is a postal code of an address in the 13th district.

The 23 Budapest districts [kerület, in Hungarian] are numbered clockwise, in widening circles, like Paris' arrondissements. They are marked with Roman numerals [I-XXIII]. Downtown Budapest districts have lower numbers [I., II.], while suburban districts have higher ones [XXI, XXII].

- Buda is the hilly part on the west bank of the Danube [Districts I, II, III, XI, XII, XXII].
- Pest is the flat part on the east bank of the Danube [Districts IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XIII, XIV, XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXIII].
- Csepel is a big island in the south , [District XXI].
- There is a third island called Óbuda Island [Óbudai-sziget] which forms parts of District III and has hosted the Sziget Festival since 1993.

Each district has a distinct flavour and ambiance. The central districts [V, VI, VII] in Pest offer a wide array of sights, landmarks, museums, shops and many places to eat and entertain. Most of the downtown areas are ideal for exploration on foot (though the city center is much larger than in Prague), but you will definitely need to use public transport as well, if you want to see the most important attractions. Many Budapest neighborhoods have undergone major development works in recent years, with new pavements, more parks, modern street lamps, and hip street art.

DISTRICT I

The first Budapest District in our series is, quite naturally, District I: Buda Castle.

This district is located in the hills of Buda, overlooking the Danube and the flat plains of Pest and is usually referred to as the castle district. It is one of the most popular tourist areas and is also a UNESCO World Heritage site.

There are about 25,000 inhabitants in this District who enjoy not only the historical atmosphere but also the benefits of the many green areas of the district. The Castle District is filled with charming, cobbled streets and grand medieval monuments like the Royal Palace, Matthias Church

and the Fishermen's Bastion. Other attractions include the thermal baths, e.g., Rudas Turkish Bath. (NB: Budapest Spas are excellent for recreation or certain medication purposes. Some of them, the Széchenyi in summer, the Lukács during winter months, host the famous Saturday Night Bath Parties.)

The Danube bank between Castle Hill and Margaret Bridge was once spotted with fishermen's cottages and docks, which is why this area is called Víziváros [Water-town].

The area is easy to approach, and explore. Two bridges connect it to Pest, and the Buda end of Margaret Bridge is also close by. Of course, a pleasant and romantic way to admire the scenic riverfronts is by taking a Danube cruise.

BUDAPEST DISTRICT II

District II is located west of the Danube and has two distinct parts: the more densely populated area close to the river and the greener, more hilly outer area. This leafy suburb of Budapest used to be the location of numerous vineyards, but most of them were wiped out in the latter part of the 1800s. This catastrophe, however, had a positive effect on the city's growth, as it allowed the building of many residential properties. The area is quiet and popular with families.

The oldest part of District II is northern Víziváros [Watertown]. In this general area you will find the northernmost Islamic holy place in Europe, the Tomb of Gül Baba, near the foot of Margaret Bridge, in Gül Baba Street. The district also boasts three Turkish Baths: Veli Bej [opened in 2012.]; the Király Baths; and the Lukács Thermal Bath.

The hilly area of Budapest's District II is famous for the Petneházy Riding School and golf course. The area is mostly suburban and has huge expanses of green spaces, bigger family houses and gardens. Although this is officially a part of the city and has easy transport links to the center of Pest, about 30 minutes by tram, it has a very calm, small-town feel.

The most notable part of this district is the Rózsadomb [Rose Hill]. It is a more affluent area with many exclusive villas and is known for its spectacular views and clean air.

The white, blue and red Children's Railway train is in the Buda Hills, which you can catch just after the terminus of tram No. 56. This Railway takes you up to Széchenyi Hill, where you can enjoy one of the best panoramas of Budapest.

DISTRICT III

District III lies in the northern part of Budapest and is the oldest and second largest district. The Roman colony of Aquincum was located here, in the early years of the first millennium. Aquincum served as the northernmost boundary of the Roman Empire and several remains from the Roman era are still viewable in the Aquincum Museum.

The center of the district is Fő tér (Main Square) and Flórián tér. Around Fő tér you will find many administrative and impressive commercial baroque buildings, like the town hall, surrounded by lovely cobbled streets, and the Zichy Palace. For the hungry traveler, there are also a handful of taverns on Fő tér offering traditional Hungarian cuisine. Fő tér hosts a charming Advent Festival each December with concerts, children's programs, street food and drinks.

Hikers will enjoy the green areas on Római Part on the western Danube bank, on Csillaghegy and in the hills west of Bécsi út. In addition, Hajógyári-sziget is home to the popular Sziget Festival every summer.

DISTRICT IV

Újpest is one of Budapest's youngest districts, which began to develop in the second half of the 19th century. It is mainly a residential and industrial area, with socialist-era housing estates dominating the city-scape in this district.

DISTRICT V

Belváros. Downtown. The Inner City. Where it all comes together. The Queen of Budapest Districts. It's all here: District V – Budapest at its classiest.

Budapest's District V, also known as Belváros, is one of the smallest in size, but probably the most important in the city. The district is home to the crown jewels of Hungarian architecture, the beautiful neo-gothic Hungarian Parliament building and Saint Stephen's Basilica, along with many government ministries and five-star hotels.



District V hosts the administrative center of Budapest. During the Roman era a fortress, *Contra Aquincum*, stood in the area, the ruins of which can be seen today at *Március 15 tér*. In medieval times Pest functioned as the outskirts of royal Buda, but the settlement quickly developed into a flourishing trade city on its own. King Matthias made Pest an independent royal city in 1468. The city wall was built during that time, following the line of today's *Deák Ferenc utca-Károly körút-Múzeum körút-Kálvin tér-Vámház körút*. The roads leading in and out of Pest city were guarded by six gates.

The development of the city was interrupted during the Turkish rule. It started to revive during the 18th century, when the city walls prohibiting large-scale development works were demolished or incorporated into later buildings. *Duna Korzó*, the Danube Promenade, was formed towards the end of the 18th century when the so-called *Újépület*, or "New Building," was built on the site of the present *Szabadság tér*

The area between *Újépület* and the former inner city was named *Lipótváros* after King Lipót was crowned in 1790. In 1897 *Újépület* was pulled down and *Szabadság Square* (Freedom Square) was formed. *Kossuth Lajos Square*, with its magnificent Parliament building, was also created during these years.

Szabadság tér is part of a large-scale project that was refurbished during the creation of Budapest's New Main Street, *Új Fő utca*. This new, partly pedestrianized area now runs between *Kálvin tér* and *Szabadság tér*. The aim of this project is to create a lively, pedestrian-friendly Main Street in the inner city with benches, terraced cafes and restaurants to stop for coffee or lunch and with much less traffic. The second part of the project included the refurbishment of *Ferenciek tere*.

Today *Szabadság tér* is a lively place with lots of cafes and restaurants. The Soviet War Memorial dominates the northern end. A unique interactive fountain is the highlight of the refurbishment program at the southern end of *Szabadság tér*, a nice offset to the rigid stone monument.

The famous pedestrian shopping area, *Váci Street*, cuts through the district, with the Great Market Hall at one end and *Vörösmarty tér* at the other end. *Vörösmarty tér* is a popular venue for events such as the Advent Festival & Fair, which runs from late November to January. This

well-known square is also home to the historic *Cafe Gerbeaud* and the *Fountain of Nereids*.

And there's even more to see and do in District V. Budapest's biggest church, *St. Stephen's Basilica*, also stands in this district, at the end of a lovely plaza lined with trendy cafes and bistros. Historic Pest was here and you can even see remains of the city wall in *Kecskeméti utca*. You can take a relaxing stroll along the *Dunakorzó* (Danube Promenade) and enjoy the beautiful vista of the Danube and Castle Hill. The city center of Budapest also has many eateries, including gourmet places like the Michelin-star *Onyx* (part of the *Gerbeaud House*) at *Vörösmarty tér*. Tram No. 2 runs along the Pest side of the Danube and is perfect for city sightseeing.

District V boasts many Five-Star hotels, some of which utilize great locations and the beautiful panorama of the Danube and Castle Hill. *Lipótváros* is also a business quarter with several major banks, government ministries and offices that flank the grandiose Budapest Parliament on *Kossuth tér*.

This is the heart of Pest and is embraced by two bridges, the Chain Bridge and Liberty Bridge, and also includes *Deák tér*, where three of the four metro lines converge.

DISTRICT VI

District VI, or *Terézváros*, is great for expats and locals who enjoy cultural events and entertainment. The *Liszt Ferenc Music Academy*, *Opera House* and many theaters are located here. Public transport, night life and shopping are in close walking distance of each other and also of this lively area's numerous bars and restaurants. *Andrassy Avenue* runs the length of the district, ending at *Hősök tere*, or *Heroes' Square*, and is home to many high-end designer stores, chic boutiques, cafes, bars and restaurants. It is sometimes referred to as the *Champs-Elysees* of Budapest. By the way, that rumble you hear below the surface while walking down *Andrassy Avenue* is mainland Europe's oldest metro line, the *M1*.

Andrassy Avenue also has a thriving cultural life. Just off the boulevard you will find Budapest's *Broadway*, which includes the world-famous *Liszt Ferenc Music Academy* and the *Operetta Theater*. In fact, *Liszt Ferenc*

Square and Nagymező utca are a restaurant and cafe hub, offering fine places of entertainment along with great restaurants, cafés and bars.

Terézváros is a place where you can go for a leisurely walk along the sycamore-lined Andrássy Avenue, view the magnificent architectural masterpieces and sit in a café on Liszt Ferenc tér and contemplate the busy street life around you. In addition, the northern corner of District VI boasts the Nyugati Train Station and the bustling square in front of it.

DISTRICT VII

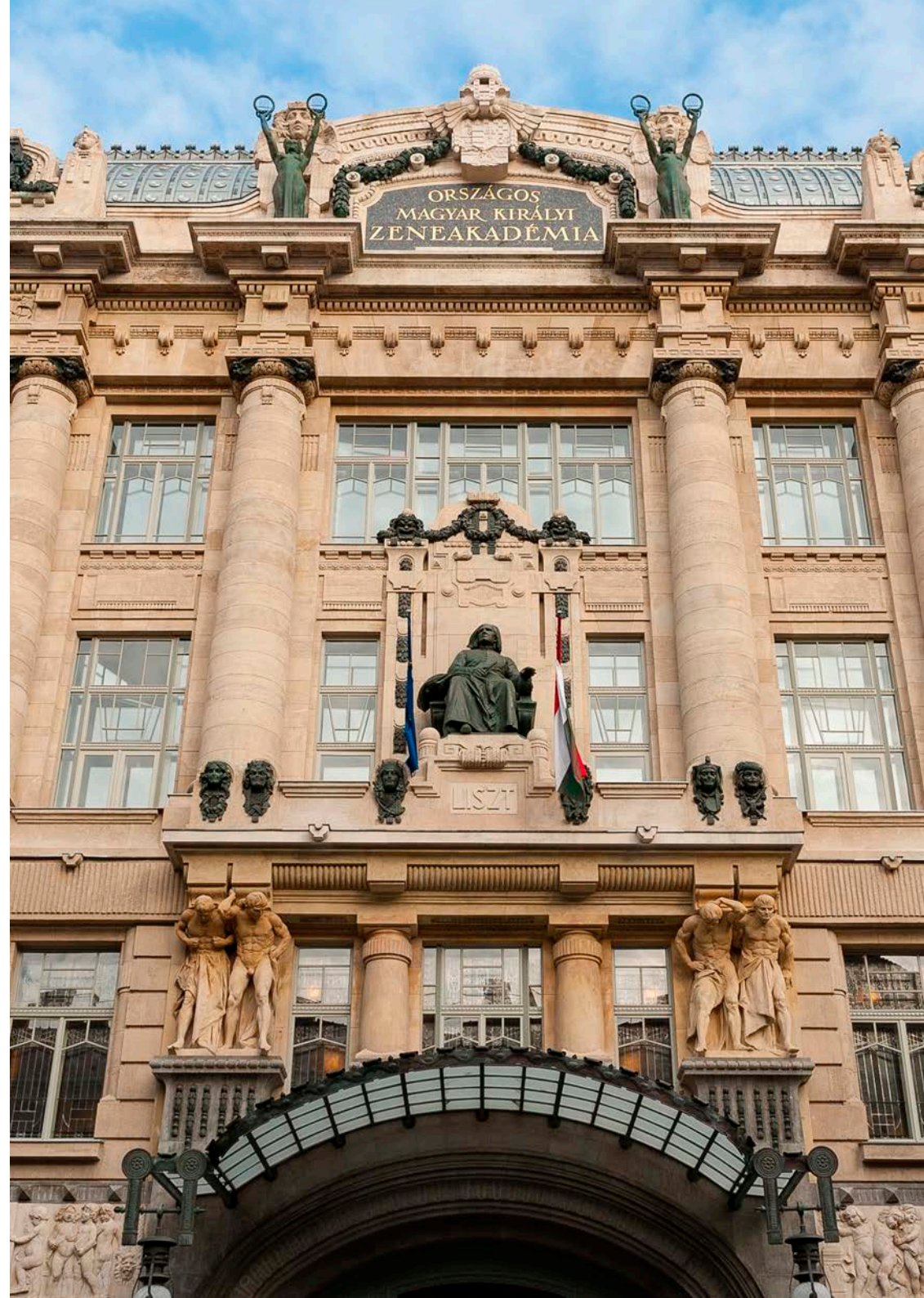
And now we come to Budapest District VII, the central synagogue district [Erzsébetváros], which is the second smallest district in Budapest. Historically it was the center of Budapest's Jewish population and today there are still a number of beautiful synagogues in the area; the most notable of these is the central synagogue on Dohány Utca, which is the largest in Europe and the second largest Jewish temple in the world after the Temple Emanu El in New York City.

This district is also home to the city's medical and veterinary universities. District VII is one of the most hip areas of the city and is very popular with foreign students. In fact, District VII houses many of the "ruin bars" for which Budapest is famous, along with pubs, garden bars, street food stands, design shops and specialty cafes. Also, one of Budapest's most famous landmarks is here: the New York Palace on the Grand Boulevard [Nagykörút], near Blaha Luiza Ter. The neighborhood offers many great places to dine, from budget eateries to fine Hungarian wine restaurants.

The renovated Kazinczy utca is a trendy cultural and nightlife hub in Budapest. It is also home to the city's primary orthodox synagogue, referred to as Kazinczy Street Synagogue. In addition, the Kazimir Tourist Information Point can be found here and there is a wide range of street food bars and local kosher shops. There's even a kosher pizzeria opposite the synagogue!

DISTRICT VIII

Budapest's pie-wedge-shaped District VIII [Józsefváros] contains two separate and distinct areas: the smaller area between the Nagykorut and Muzeum Krt and the larger area east of the Grand Boulevard. This second area is still one of the most densely populated and poorest districts of Budapest. Józsefváros does, however, have a distinctive, old-fashioned



atmosphere. Unfortunately, there are still too many crumbling inner courtyards, shabby houses with eclectic facades and old shops dominating this eastern portion of District VIII. Even locals avoid walking alone at night in this outer part of the District.

Many parts of this outer portion of District VIII are still underdeveloped, though there are large scale development plans aimed at modernizing this area. One of the primary attractions here is the Keleti Train Station. Another is the recently-renovated Rakoczi Market Hall, to which a large Chinese market is attached. To experience true Józsefváros and find some hidden treasures, walk in the streets beyond the Grand Boulevard and on Rákóczi út.

There is good news for District VIII, however; this district also functions as part of the main body of Budapest, because much of the city's traffic runs through Baross utca, Rákóczi út and Üllői út. The district boasts several libraries, hospitals, universities and museums along with two big sport grounds.

The Hungarian National Museum is here and there are more pleasant attractions in the smaller wedge of the district. It has one of the largest gardens in Budapest, Orczy kert; the Hungarian Natural History Museum on Ludovika tér houses exciting scientific exhibitions. Behind Kálvin tér you'll find many great buildings, for example; the beautiful Wenckheim Palace that houses the Szabó Ervin Library. This area is known as the Palace District due to its many large older palatial buildings.

Neighborhoods:

Józsefváros, Kerepesdűlő, Tisztviselőtelep

DISTRICT IX

One of the most diverse districts of Budapest is District IX, which includes the National Theatre. Its atmosphere is much like Józsefváros', though Ferencváros is a more rapidly-developing part of the capital. The area still has to cope with serious social and environmental problems, such as the fact that there are many monuments that are in need of renovation.

The biggest ongoing development project is on the former Expo 96 site on the Danube bank: the new cultural Hot Spot. The new National Theater on the Pest side of the Danube near Rákóczi Bridge is a recent addition

to the cultural life of this area. Next to the National Theatre, the Palace of Arts was finished in 2005. It houses the National Concert Hall and the Ludwig Contemporary Arts Museum.

District IX also has one of the most important Jewish sites of Budapest. Next to the synagogue in Páva Street, the Holocaust Memorial Center [Holokauszt Emlékközpont] opened in 2004.

The Center's permanent exhibition, titled From the Deprivation of Rights to Genocide, depicts the persecution, suffering and massacre of Hungarian Jews and Romas committed in the name of Nazi ideology.

The Central Market Hall is also in District IX. This Budapest landmark, housed in a historic building with beautiful period architecture, remains one of the best places in Budapest to shop for Hungarian foods, spices, wines and souvenirs. The first floor also offers some great fast food, Hungarian style. The market floor contains a large number of individual booths which offer a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, meat and dairy products.

Budapest's Restaurant Row is also an integral part of District IX. Ráday utca is packed with restaurants and cafes catering to all tastes and budgets; Hungary's first Michelin star restaurant, Costes, is here.

Neighborhoods:

Ferencváros, Gubacsidűlő, József Attila-lakótelep

DISTRICT X

District X is mainly an industrial area. Kőbánya literally means stone quarry, though when thinking of this district, beer comes to the minds of most Hungarians. Several local breweries utilize the deserted quarries running under the district's surface for several kilometers and the largest is the Dreher Brewery. Their products are well-known to all visitors to the city's pubs.

District X also contains Budapest's biggest public park, Népliget, which is ideal for a walk on a sunny summer day. The Planetárium and the Laser Theater in the park also offer unique experiences for visitors of all ages.

For travelers, the inter-city coach station is opposite Népliget. Also, metro lines M2 and M3 have their terminus here at Örs vezér tér and Kőbánya-Kispest metro terminals, respectively.

DISTRICT XI

Wealthy citizens of the area lived in the Újbuda [New Buda] district before they moved up to the Buda Hills. District XI embraces Gellért Hill; climb up the hill and you can enjoy one of the best panoramic views of Budapest. The limestone hill towers above the Danube and forms a characteristic part of the city scape.

Nearby Móricz Zsigmond körtér is the focal point of everyday life in this district. The square, renovated in recent years, is a major public transport hub, as several tram and bus lines have stops here.

Another distinctive feature of District XI is the Budapest Technical University [Budapesti Műszaki Egyetem], which runs along the Danube bank between Liberty Bridge and Rákóczi Bridge [formerly called Lágymányosi Bridge].

The Kopaszi-Gát, or Green Oasis, is a popular recreation area on the Danube bank and has become a favorite spot for jogging, walking or just sitting at one of the cafe terraces and admiring the view.

Note for the future: the city's biggest planned development project, the BudaPart residential and business complex, is scheduled to be built here.

DISTRICT XII

The 12th District of Budapest is located in Buda and is a relatively new area, becoming an independent district in 1940. Although the Romans had villas in the area, most of the buildings were constructed in the second part of the 19th century. During the reign of King Mátyás, a natural spring called Városkút, which means the well of the city, provided almost all of the city's drinking water.

At the beginning of the 20th century the area became one of the most elegant and popular places for new buildings. The district has breath-taking views across Budapest and is very popular with families.

You'll find it a bit difficult to get to some outer areas in Budapest's District XII [Hegyvidék, or the Buda Hills], due to the hilly terrain, although several public transport bus services will get you to the inner parts of the area. The hills are ideal for hiking and inhaling some fresh air and peacefulness

after the busy city center. You can also enjoy beautiful views of Budapest from the lookout point on Széchenyi Hill.

The chairlift in the Buda Hills is the lung of Budapest. Despite the increasing construction works, extensive patches of forest still cover the Buda Hills, which can also be accessed by the cogwheel railway. People even ski in Normafa when there is snow in winter. In warmer seasons, the area is perfect for strolling, sitting on the benches and taking in the vista.

DISTRICT XIII

Budapest District XIII is known as Angyalföld, or Land of Angels, and it has two completely different parts. Northern Angyalföld is the most typical working class area in Budapest, while the southern part [Újlipótváros], along the Grand Boulevard, is a continuation of the inner city.

The district plays an important role in Budapest's transportation industry, with Nyugati Train Station and the coach station at Árpád Bridge located here.

The 13th district runs along the river Danube and boasts Margaret Bridge and St. István park; it's also where many young families live. The leafy streets close to the Danube have an almost village feel to them. District XIII is also the home of many Class 'A' office buildings. Larger development areas in this district have seen a boom in building and the area has become home to many international companies as well as one of the largest shopping malls in Europe, The West End City Centre.

The most popular attraction in District XIII is the idyllic Margaret Island [Margitsziget]. If you want to get away from the bustling city, head for Margitsziget for a walk or jog along the Danube. Since the Danube borders Angyalföld, you can also get there by boat operated by the city's public transport company [BKV].

DISTRICT XIV

Zugló is Budapest's second greenest district. It has recently been undergoing a massive residential development, as it has become a very popular target for locals and expats planning to buy an apartment. You can buy a nice flat in green surroundings here, similar to those in the Buda Hills, for less money.

Attractions include Heroes' Square with the grandiose Millennium Monument, Budapest Zoo, and the Botanical Garden and Amusement Park in City Park [Városliget]. And don't forget Szechenyi Baths, one of the city's most popular attractions.

DISTRICT XXI

District XXI lies on called Csepel sziget [Csepel Island]. Csepel was the center of the communist heavy industry and it still retains a general working class atmosphere. The entrance to the Csepel Industrial Complex, Csepel Művek, written in red block letters; heavy machinery, trucks and tractors were manufactured here.

Northern Csepel has a large area that might become the site of future development; in fact, some people have dreamt about establishing a "Little Manhattan" here, but plans are still uncertain.

District XXI does not boast many attractions, but for explorers who want to get an impression of what it was like during the communist years, feel free to take a walk in the former Red Csepel Industrial Complex. In addition, you can also explore the World War II underground bunker in the industrial complex on a guided tour organized by the Budapest Scenes team.

For more pleasant scenery, go to the Danube bank on the eastern side, where you'll find a spectacular waterfront. You can get to Csepel by the HEV suburban railway from Boráros tér at the Pest end of the Petőfi Bridge or by car.

DISTRICTS XV, XVI, XVII, XVIII, XIX, XX, XXII, XXIII

These remaining districts are residential and commercial and don't contain any sights of interest for the inquiring adventurer. Budapest's Liszt Ferenc Airport is located in District 18.

As Budapest has grown, so too have its suburbs and the surrounding towns and villages. There are many new condominiums and houses being built in these burgeoning settlements. Travelling into Budapest is not difficult, nor does it take too long; however, the rush hours do lengthen the trip. The most popular commuter towns around Budapest are Szentendre, Pilisvörösvár, Üröm, Solymár, Nagykovácsi, Törökbálint, Budaörs,

Diósd, Budakeszi, Páty, Telki, Szigetszentmiklós, Dunakeszi and Gödöllő. Even if you do not live in one of them, many are worth a visit!

EDITOR'S NOTE: This district guide was written by our dear friend and colleague, Gary Lukatch. Gary was an amazing writer, traveller, father, grandfather, friend and karaoke star and his loss will be felt for years to come throughout the Budapest expatriate community. Gary passed away while travelling, his favourite thing in the world, on 2nd April 2019.

WHICH AREA TO CHOOSE?

Both Budapest and the surrounding areas are constantly changing – districts and villages, which might not have been very residential some years back have been renovated and become more popular. If you like a particular property, but are unsure about the area or would like to ask further questions about its location, please share your concerns with your relocation consultant, and they will offer you objective advice.

The following points tend to be the most considered when deciding on a particular area:

- > Proximity to particular schools, kindergartens or nurseries.
- > Distance and time it takes to travel to work taking into consideration the traffic problems.
- > Availability of public transport.
- > Shopping facilities, hypermarkets, supermarkets, etc.
- > Access to motorways and the airport.
- > Parking.
- > Is it in an "expatriate area", with proximity to other expats.
- > Proximity of parks, cultural activities, restaurants, and sporting facilities.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Since 2015 the housing market in Budapest can be considered a landlord's market. A combination of factors has led the market to swing in favour of lessors: an increasing demand for some categories of properties (downtown apartments mainly) and the loss of some properties to short-term rental sites like Airbnb. These factors have pushed rental rates up significantly during 2015-18 and have led to a definite urgency on the part of the tenant to make a decision when choosing a property. Demand for houses remains fairly static and rental rates are far more stable as a consequence. The best family houses will still be in great demand, as they always have been but overall this segment of the market is more tipped in favour of the tenant when it comes to negotiation.

- Unfurnished properties typically contain: Appliances in the kitchen and in the bathrooms and there may be some built-in wardrobes and light fixtures.
- Furnished properties typically contain: furniture in all rooms, sometimes with kitchenware, towels and beddings, as well as electrical devices, generally everything one needs to live comfortably. A detailed inventory lists all items in a given property.



In general, if you are planning to stay in Hungary for at least 2 to 3 years, and are looking to rent a larger house, we recommend you consider bringing your own furniture with you, or purchasing it here, as most landlords do not furnish homes of this size. For short-term rentals, or smaller apartments, one can usually find a furnished home either downtown or on the Buda side of the river. If the landlord is required to furnish a property, the rental price will generally be higher.

Several causes including COVID-19, the conflict in Ukraine and a restricted supply of suitable houses, have contributed to a considerable increase in rental costs since 2015. Demand is much higher than supply, so the home search process requires flexibility in visits and quick decisions by the tenant.

Your relocation consultant is there to provide expert help with the home search process. They will co-ordinate the real estate agencies' work and represent you during negotiations, the lease contract completion process and the handover of the property from the landlord to you as tenant. Although real estate agencies in Hungary do not charge fees to the tenant, it is a fact that their fee is linked to the level of rent secured for the landlord, which means they have no motivation to push for a reduction in the rent on your behalf. A relocation service provider can also handle the complex negotiations and legalities of the lease contract for you.

It is important to note also that it is very uncommon to find exclusive letting by real estate agencies in Hungary. Landlords typically have contracts with several agencies, which can prove problematic as, on occasion, real estate agencies' proposals can overlap. This is just one more reason to employ a professional relocation service provider to manage the home search process and to avoid being shown the same property twice.

BUDAPEST AND ITS SUBURBS

The most typical apartments available on the market in Budapest are to be found in the old style downtown buildings of Pest's Districts V, VI, and VII. These properties generally have high ceilings, classical parquet wooden floors, and vaulted arches. In some of these houses one can find elevators, but as many of the buildings are old, they might only have staircases. In some of the apartments there are still fire places or heating stoves (no longer required for use, as most apartments have been renovated, but still a quaint touch). If one chooses an apartment in a house like this, one



must be aware that parking will be an additional cost on top of the rental fee if there is generally no parking available in the courtyard.

The rental price for these apartments varies hugely, often depending on location, neighbourhood, size of the flat and overall quality and condition of the building. While you might find a studio apartment for as little as €600, you can also find a family sized apartment for €4,000 or more! It is also important to note that there are no houses or apartments with their own gardens or backyards in the central Pest districts. If this is a concern, perhaps because you have children, you will need to look for a property closer to the suburbs or in Buda.

There are also newly built apartment buildings in the downtown area, especially in districts where old houses have been demolished, and new condominium houses built in their place. In these buildings, one can find attractive, modern-style apartments, with balconies, new elevators and underground garages. Some of them are also home to beautiful, landscaped gardens in the courtyard.

The Budapest suburbs are remarkable for the variety of property styles on offer. One of the most typical is the newly built Mediterranean style with pastel colours and natural wooden windows and doors. These houses usually have a nice garden, 3-4 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, and a sauna and, if you're lucky, even the all-American touch of a swimming pool!

Another typical style in Buda is the 100 or more year old villa. These are especially found in District XII, as it was here that the Hungarian aristocrats had their summer homes. Here you can also find smaller old-style villas, which used to be hunters' cottages in the 18th century. As you will see, these houses come with history! There are also some old villas in Districts II and III. They have unique, if not very practical, layouts, meaning you can at times feel like you are lost in a labyrinth. Usually these properties have been fully renovated, but in some cases the quality of finishing is not of the highest quality, and one should be very careful when taking a type of house like this.

There are also some very different looking houses in the Buda districts, many of them built to rent and looked on as an investment. Their architectural style is not common, but they do have their own gardens and are comfortable for living. Their layout is very practical; some have swimming-pools, saunas or Jacuzzis in their basements. These newly-built homes are, perhaps, most similar to the places expats will be used to from their native countries.

WHICH PROPERTY TO CHOOSE?

The following are some of the important points that should be considered when choosing a property:

- > Your budget.
- > Extra payments such as utilities [heating, water, electricity] maintenance [gardening, swimming pool, etc.].
- > Pets – typically no animals are allowed without the landlord's permission.
- > Your obligations as a tenant – these vary enormously from country to country and in Hungary you have lots of specific obligations. For example, no alteration works can be carried out to the property without the landlord's prior written approval.
- > Upkeep of gardens and swimming-pools– it is the tenant's responsibility to maintain facilities in good condition, which can be time-consuming and/or costly.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARTENS

This is a list of the main international schools and kindergartens, with the four most popular schools listed first:

1. The British International School Budapest:
www.nordangliaeducation.com/our-schools/budapest
2. American International School of Budapest – www.aisb.hu/

3. Britannica International School – www.britannicaschool.hu/
4. Budapest British International School – www.bbis.hu
5. International School of Budapest – www.isb.hu/en
6. Lycée Français Gustave Eiffel de Budapest – www.lfb.hu/fr/
7. Deutsche Schule Budapest, Thomas Mann Gymnasium – www.deutscheschule.hu

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS AND KINDERGARDENS

- Österreichisch-Ungarische Europaschule – www.europaschule.hu/en
 Lauder Javne School – www.lauder.hu/wp/
 Greater Grace International School – www.ggis.hu
 International Christian School of Budapest [ICSB] – www.icsbudapest.org/
 Japanese International School – www.bpjpschool.hu/
 Hungarian-Chinese Primary School – www.magyar-kinai.hu/
 SEK Budapest International School – www.budapest.iesedu.com/
 Nikola Tesla Serbian School – www.nikola-tesla.hu/
 Al Wahda Arabian School – 1157 Budapest, Kavicsos köz 2-4.

INTERNATIONAL KINDERGARTENS IN BUDAPEST (ENGLISH LANGUAGE)

- Apple Tree Kindergarten – www.appletree-kindergarten.hu
 The English Garden – www.englishgarden.hu
 Greater Grace International School – www.ggis.hu
 Happy Kids – www.happykids.hu/
 Kids' Kiosk – www.kidskiosk.eu/
 Mother Goose – www.mothergoose.hu/en/
 Music House – www.musichouse.hu/en/
 Plum Pudding – www.plumpudding.hu/
 Under The Rainbow – www.undertherainbow.hu/
 A to Z Kindergarten – www.atoz.hu
 Lotti & Maxim [Montessori] – www.lottiantmaxim.com
 Eszterlánc [Montessori] – www.lanclanc.hu/en/kapcsolat/

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN BUDAPEST (GERMAN LANGUAGE)

- Deutscher Kindergarten – www.deutscher-kindergarten-budapest.com/hu
 Natur Kinder – www.naturkinder.hu/index_de.php

The Tenancy Agreement

UNDERSTANDING YOUR OBLIGATIONS AS A TENANT

There are two types of lease contracts used in Hungary for renting a property. One is a personal lease agreement where you are the tenant. In this case, all your personal details need to be given to the landlord, and it is possible he or she may ask for a copy of your passport. The other case is if your employer rents the property, and you are the person appointed by the tenant to live in it. In this case, all the company documents must be copied and provided to the landlord, especially a copy of the specimen of signature for the individual who signs the agreement.

DURATION OF THE LEASE AND CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:

The minimum lease term according to Hungarian real estate market norms is 1 year. Of course, you can sign for a shorter period, but the rental fee for a short-term tenancy is likely to be 30-50% higher. The longer the duration you or your company can sign, the better the conditions you can achieve in the lease.

The lease agreement can be terminated as follows:

- by the mutual agreement of the parties– according to Hungarian rental laws, the minimum notice period is 15 days, but it can be longer.
- if the lease agreement runs for an indefinite period, either of the parties will have the right to terminate, giving 1-3 months' written notice. This is called ordinary notice, it can only be used in the case of indefinite term leases, but termination can be enforced for any reason.
- by the tenant giving 1-3 months' written notice, upon the termination of the job of the person living in the property. This type of extraordinary notice is under a part of the contract known as the Diplomatic Clause.
- in case the premises become uninhabitable or unsuitable for proper use for reasons beyond the parties' control. This is another form of extraordinary notice.
- by immediate written notice if either party fails to observe the obligations contained in the lease agreement and settle the breach upon the other party's written notice within an appropriate given deadline. This is also a form of extraordinary notice.
- nowadays, in most cases, landlords accept early termination during the definite period by the tenant if the full amount of the deposit can be kept as compensation.



RENT

The total monthly rent usually does not include additional charges. All utilities and maintenance costs are required to be paid separately by the tenant, unless a deal has been worked out with the landlord and is so specified in the rental agreement.

In some special cases, landlords include some additional extras like a gardening fee in the rent. If the owner of the property is a company, it can invoice all utility and maintenance costs to the tenant without paying the taxes for them; therefore, these fees may be included in the rental fee.

BUILDING CHARGES

A building or common charge exists in Hungary only for apartments or row houses located in a compound. This charge covers the maintenance costs of the building, as well as the common costs. The maintenance costs should always be paid by the landlord, whilst the common cost is the tenant's responsibility.

The common costs include all common charges for the building or the compound, such as heating, lighting and cleaning of the common areas. It also covers the use and upkeep of the elevator and in some buildings, water and sewage services, garbage collection and gardening costs. In condominium houses with wellness areas (swimming pool, saunas, Jacuzzi, squash, fitness room with cardio machines, etc.), you will have to pay for these services according to the size of your property.

SECURITY DEPOSIT

In addition to the payment of the first rental amount after signing your lease agreement, you will be expected to pay a deposit equal to 1-3 months' rent. In Hungary the security deposit does not need to be placed in a time-locked deposit.

The landlord is entitled to deduct from the security deposit any unpaid obligation of the tenant related to the termination of the lease, the debts, if any, including utility fees and any damage to the property and/or the furniture beyond normal wear and tear. The deposit should be reimbursed by the landlord usually within 15-30 days of the expiry of the lease agreement.

The rent can be paid right up to the end of the tenancy, or the security deposit can be considered as the last 1-3 month rent, subject to the agreement of the parties to the lease. If the deposit is used as rent, the tenant is still obliged to compensate all costs arising from improper use or unpaid bills at the end of the lease.

RENT REVIEW

The rent is reviewed according to the existing agreement of the contracting parties, either annually, or after the expiration of the definite term of the initial lease. The calculation used for increasing the rent depends on what currency it was defined and paid in. If the rent was calculated in Hungarian Forints, it is usually reviewed each year and increased by the rate of inflation, depending on prevailing market conditions. If it was calculated in Euro (it does not matter if it is paid in HUF or EUR), parties usually review it only if the lease is prolonged after the definite term. The increase is defined according to the parties' agreement.

REAL ESTATE AGENCY COMMISSION

In Hungary, a commission is paid by the landlord to the real estate agency only for its services in securing the property and contract. In most cases, the negotiation and the lease agreement is completed by the relocation agency and agent. The commission ranges from one month's rent to 12% of the annual rent.

TAXES

Taxes relating to the property and tax on the rental income are paid by the landlord. There is no waste disposal tax, but monthly rubbish collection fees do often apply, and they must be paid by the tenant.

CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT INSPECTIONS, INVENTORY

When the lease commences on your home, a handover inspection is carried out. Regardless of whether the property is furnished or not, an inventory is compiled, listing the items left in the property for the use of the tenant.

The handover is carried out by the landlord, the tenant (or the employee of the tenant who is going to live in the property), the real estate agent and the relocation consultant. The handover report, which is a legal document that sets out the condition of the property, the utility meter readings, and the number of keys given - is signed by the landlord and the tenant (or the person who is going to live in the property). The inventory list is

checked item by item, as well as the condition of the property. Photos are made and kept on file for use when the property is handed back.

If, after you have moved in to your property, there are issues (such as malfunctioning electrical appliances) which have not been mentioned in the check-in report, you should inform your landlord in writing and add a copy of the letter with the written inspection report (this should be done as soon as possible after the check-in inspection, and no later than a month).

It is the tenant's responsibility to maintain the property in good condition. Any costs that arise caused by normal wear and tear on the property are the responsibility of the landlord.

When you leave your property, the landlord, you, and the relocation agent conduct another check-out inspection.

The two sets of documents and the photos are compared to determine how much of the deposit is returned to the tenant, or how much the tenant is obliged to pay for the costs of repairing any damages arising from improper use, or for unpaid utility bills or other obligations. Proof of expenses must always be provided.

Normal wear and tear is taken into account, but if, for example, you drill holes in the walls to hang pictures, you will need to fill them when you leave. It is extremely important, if you wish to recuperate the security deposit, that you leave the property in the same general condition as you found it in at the handover.



➤ *The Arrival Process*

HOUSE INSURANCE

The landlord is required to take out full insurance on the premises, including a multi-risk insurance against fire, water and glass damage, while the tenant should take out insurance on his/her personal belongings.

We are happy to help with the insurance process. Your Inter Relocation consultant will provide you with a quotation in English.

For this you will need to make a list of the personal belongings that you wish to insure with their individual values, and the total value. Items you should consider insuring include:

- Furniture and household goods.
- Electrical appliances (HI-FI, DVD, TV set, camera, computer, tablet).
- Handmade carpets, paintings.
- Antiques.
- Jewellery.

You should return this inventory to your Inter Relocation consultant, who will get the quotation from the insurance broker. If you accept the insurance company's quotation, the policy can be signed. The policy is not always automatically renewed; it has to be prolonged before expiry. Please contact your consultant to help with the extension. The policy can also be terminated at any time by ordinary notice (1-2 months, depending on the insurance company).

In the event of a claim, you will need to contact your insurance agent or Inter Relocation consultant, who will immediately get in touch with your insurance agent. Any receipts, photos, and guarantees, etc. which you may have will be used to determine the extent of the claim.

Please ensure that you immediately declare any damage that occurs during your occupancy to your consultant. The fact that the claim has been registered is vital – whether the work has been done or not – when it comes to reclaiming the deposit paid on the property at the end of the stay.

APPLIANCES AND UTILITIES

Gas heating and hot water: If your apartment has communal central heating, then the cost of heating is included in the common charge. If your property has individual gas heating, you as the tenant (or the person living in the property) are responsible for the general up-keep of the boiler, while the landlord is responsible for the yearly maintenance.

Electricity: Electric voltage is 220-230 V in Hungary and the current alternates at 50 cycles. Wall sockets are compatible with plugs from other European countries, but if you're in doubt, check with your consultant.

Water and sewage: If your apartment does not have its own water utility meter, the water and sewage fee is included in the common cost. If you have a separate meter, the water is invoiced according to consumption and calculated on the basis of the meter reading every three months. The sewage fee is calculated from the same consumption, as there is no separate sewage meter.

Garbage collection: If you have an apartment in a block house or in a compound, the garbage collection fee is included in the common charge. If you have your own house, it is invoiced by the service provider directly monthly.

Chimney sweeping: If your property has a working chimney, you should have it swept once a year, as, more importantly, you will need a certificate proving that the chimney has been swept in the last 12 months, to be sure to be covered by your insurance company in case of fire. The chimney sweeping fee should be covered by the landlord.

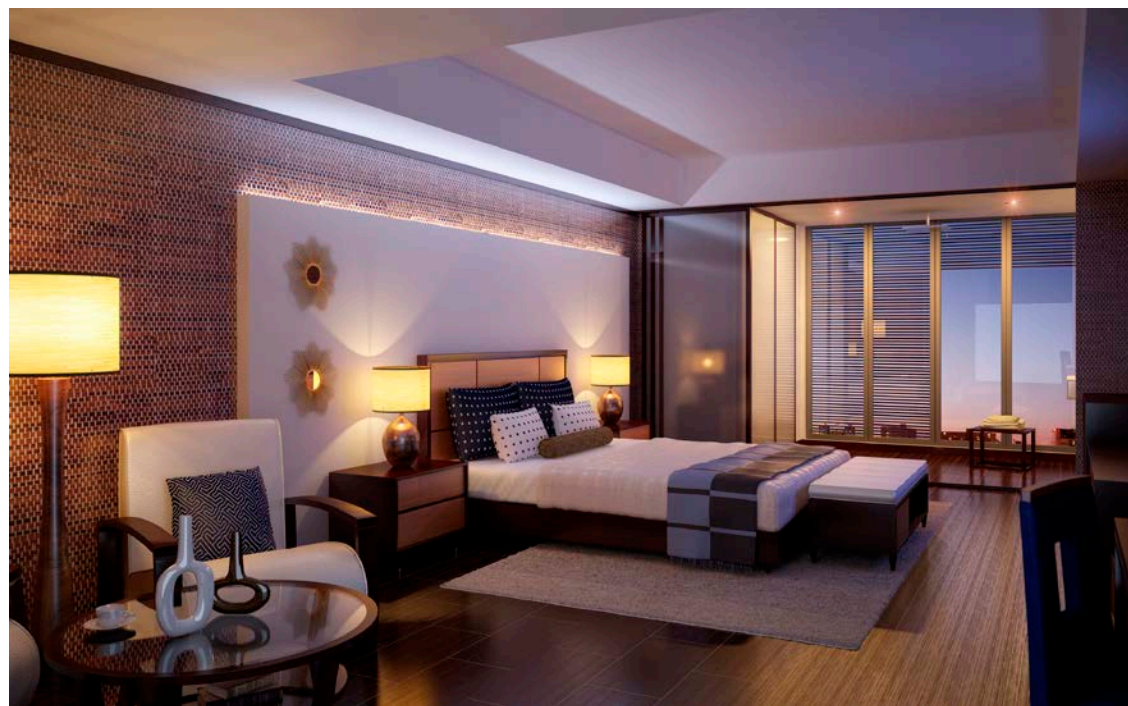
AUTHORIZATIONS

There are a few things which you cannot do without requesting special authorization from your landlord.

Internal works or refurbishment: You are obliged to get written permission from your landlord for any internal redecoration you wish to carry out. Decorative work which improves the property is not normally refused, but definitely needs to be discussed first with the landlord. No alteration works are allowed to be carried out without the landlord's written approval.

External works: Any changes which affect the external aspect of the property must be approved by the landlord. In certain cases the landlord will need, in turn, to seek authorization from the local town hall. Be aware that certain buildings have restrictions about the installation of the satellite dishes, so if this is a priority for you, it should be discussed with your Inter Relocation consultant prior to the visit. Please also remember that any costs for dismantling the dish are borne by the tenant on departure from the property.

Gardens: Any major changes you wish to make to the garden, such as cutting down trees, moving bushes, landscaping, etc., should be discussed beforehand with your landlord.



Motoring In Hungary



PARKING PERMITS

Parking permits are issued by each individual local council and are only applicable in downtown areas where a charge is levied to park during the day. You need to register your car at the local council office and it is important to note that there can be quite stringent restrictions on qualification for a parking permit. In some districts it is enough to own the vehicle and to have a registered Hungarian address; in others, you must own the home and the vehicle to qualify for a permit. The necessary documents may include:

- › Valid residence permit or Hungarian Registration Card.
- › Address card.
- › Certificate of registration for the vehicle..
- › Purchase contract for the property.

DRIVING LICENCE

EU licence requirements

- › An EU citizen may drive in Hungary using their home country's EU license until it expires or for two years from their first day of legal residency. After this period, they must exchange their license for a Hungarian one if their home country EU license has no expiry date or if the expiry date is very long (e.g., 10 years). The process of exchanging the license is quite simple.

NON-EU LICENCE REQUIREMENTS

- › A non-EU citizen with an international driving license may drive in Hungary for one year from their first day of legal residency. After this year, they must exchange their license for a Hungarian one.
- › If the country that issued their current license is not a signatory to the United Nations Vienna Convention and/or Geneva Convention on Road Traffic, both a written and practical driving test may be necessary.

ROAD TAX

- › Charged annually on all Hungarian-registered vehicles and according to the power of the engine of your car.

RENTING A CAR

Car rental is very popular in Hungary.

- › Cars are often delivered and collected by the rental companies.
- › A deposit and a daily charge for the car is typically required.
- › Cars can also be rented on a long-term basis or leased through specialist leasing companies or participating dealers.

IMPORTING A CAR

If importing a car, various restrictions apply, whether the car is being imported from inside or outside the EU. There is a registration tax to be paid on all imports and VAT and customs duty may be payable on imports from outside the EU. A technical inspection of the vehicle must be passed and the owner must have a registered Hungarian address and residence permit.

CAR INSPECTION

All cars more than three years old are subject to a compulsory technical test, which is renewable every two years.

CAR SEATS FOR CHILDREN

Children under the age of twelve should be seated in the back of the car, using an approved car seat.

DRINK DRIVING

Hungary basically follows a zero tolerance approach to drink driving. If you have had any alcohol to drink, you cannot drive until it's certain the alcohol has left your system. Forget about popping in to the pub on the way home from work for a swift half with the boys. And think twice when you get into the car in the morning following a late night out. Has all that alcohol have cleared your system yet?

DRIVING IN HUNGARY

The following documents need to be in your possession when driving in Hungary:

- > Driving licence (holders of an EU/EEA licence)
- > International Driving licence + OFFI (Hungarian Office for Translation and Attestation) translation of the domestic Driving licence (non-EU/EEA) or domestic driving license in case the category and the vehicle you are allowed to drive can be easily defined according to the listed categories on the license and/or pictograms (this option is applicable rather for tourists)
- > Car registration papers
- > Proof of insurance
- > An Accident report proforma

There have been some relief in the legalisation recently that relate to mainly Hungarian citizens when drive their own car, as many of the above

listed documents do not need to be carried with them, but that is not applicable for foreign citizens.

The following must be kept in the car:

- > First aid kit
- > Spare wheel
- > Jack
- > Luminous jacket
- > Toolbox
- > Wrench
- > Warning triangle
- > Replacement lamp bulbs

ROAD TOLLS IN HUNGARY

The road toll system in Hungary is quite complicated and it's a good idea to know when you need to pay a toll and when you do not. An E-Vignette must be purchased for any vehicle, whether on Hungarian or foreign plates to allow the car to legally use the motorway network. A list of the roads for which an E-Vignette are currently required, and a list of motorways that remain toll-free can be found here: www.toll-charge.hu/articles/article/road-network.

The E-Vignette, otherwise known as a motorway or highway sticker (it used to be a physical sticker that you would attach to your windscreen) is available at most major petrol stations on the access roads to the motorway network and they can also be purchased online via most Hungarian banks' internet banking sites.

The current penalty for failing to have a valid E-Vignette when driving on the motorway network is varied according to the category and payment. Details of this can be found here: www.autopalyamatrica.hu/autopalya-matrica-buntetes-potdij. It is important to note that it is the car owner's responsibility to retain proof that they paid the toll for a given period. If you pay your toll at a petrol station then it is highly recommended that you file the receipt you get for a calendar year, just in case the National Toll Payment Services company questions whether you were covered on a certain day.

Category [Díjkategória]	Basic penalty paid within 60 days [Alap pótdíj 60 napon belüli fizetés esetén]	Higher penalty paid after 60 days [Emelt pótdíj 60 napon túli fizetés esetén]
D1 / D2	18 750 HUF	74 970 HUF
B2	84 330 HUF	337 290 HUF

Banking in Hungary

To open an account, you will generally need to show your passport and proof of residence. Should you need to open an account prior to your arrival in Hungary, Inter Relocation will put you in contact with certain banks that are willing to open an account without an address.

As soon as you open your account, you will receive the account number. Your bank card will be delivered to your postal address 1-2 weeks later. The pin-code for the card will be sent in a separate letter, around the same time. Upon receiving both, you will need to activate the card. The official currency in Hungary is the Hungarian Forint, the symbol for which is either shown as HUF or Ft.

To open a bank account as an EU citizen you will need:

- Passport
- Hungarian Registration card
- Hungarian Address card
- In some cases Hungarian or foreign tax number, lease agreement, work contract.

To open a bank account as a non-EU citizen you will need:

- Passport
- Hungarian Residence permit
- Hungarian Accommodation Reporting Form
- In some cases Hungarian or foreign tax number, lease agreement, work contract.

Banks may make customer risk analysis before decision.

Pets

BRINGING ANIMALS TO HUNGARY

An EU citizen arriving in Hungary must provide a pet passport. The conditions for issuing a pet passport are as follows:

- Your pet must have a report detailing its vaccination against rabies, showing it has been inoculated properly and is up to date.

- The pet must have either a tattoo or a microchip for identification purposes. From 2012, only microchip identification will be accepted.
- A request for a pet passport should come from the vet that inoculates the animal.
- The validity of the pet passport must match that of the current vaccination against rabies. A new passport should be issued after each vaccination.
- If the microchip fitted to your animal is not 11784/11785 standard compliant, you will also need to provide the equipment necessary for reading the identification number.

For a non-EU citizen bringing in a pet from outside the EU, the owner must show a veterinary health certificate, which proves that the animal meets all the health requirements determined by EU law. Regardless of this, the animal may also be examined by a vet.

Hungarian Holidays

January 1st	New Year's Day
March 15th	Commemoration of 1848-49 Revolution and War of Independence
Easter	Monday after Easter Sunday
May 1st	Labour Day
Whit Monday	Monday after Pentecost
August 20th	St. Stephen's Day, marking King István [Stephen], Hungary's founder.
October 23rd	1956 Uprising Remembrance Day
November 1st	All Saints' Day
December 24-25-26th	Christmas

SECTION 2.

Post-Arrival Information

Welcome To Hungary

This post-arrival section is intended to assist you in the most practical ways in adapting to your new life in Hungary. The following information has been designed to help you become familiar with different elements of Hungarian life, such as the language, shopping, medical information, and various social activities, among other useful information.

All the recommendations made in this section have come from people who have used the various services, and have found them to be helpful and of a high standard. We are always grateful for any comments or criticism you may have, as these helps us to ensure that the section remains a useful part of the adaptation process.

MEDICAL CARE IN HUNGARY

The Hungarian healthcare system offers a wide range of facilities, both out and in-patient, public and private, from which to choose. Budapest is particularly rich in the choices on offer. For more information regarding the Hungarian Social Security System, please see page 55.

VACCINATIONS

Certain vaccinations are required for Hungarian residents, while others are merely recommended. The following vaccinations are compulsory for en-



rolment in kindergartens and schools, and the corresponding vaccination proof should be brought with you:

HepB vaccine is currently given to infants of HbsAg positive mothers, and to mothers with unknown HbsAg status. Administered in 3 doses, starting within 12 hours post-partum [in case of HbsAg positive mother simultaneously with HB immunoglobulin], the second dose is given 1 month later, and third dose follows 6 months after first.

DTaP, IPV and Hib are given as the pentavalent combination vaccine.

DTaP and IPV are given as a combined vaccine.

A full course of HepB vaccination has been mandatory since 1999 at 14 years of age, and for first year students in schools of higher education for those not previously vaccinated. The pentavalent combination vaccine against diphtheria tetanus, pertussis, polio and Hib was introduced to the national vaccination schedule in 2006, and replaced previous forms of vaccination for diphtheria, tetanus, whole-cell pertussis, Hib, and live oral polio vaccines.

- D > Diphtheria vaccine [normal dose]*
- d > Low dose diphtheria vaccine [booster dose]*
- T > Tetanus vaccine [normal dose]*
- t > Low dose tetanus vaccine [booster dose]*
- aP > Acellular pertussis vaccine [normal dose]*
- ap > Low dose acellular pertussis vaccine [booster dose]*
- wP > Whole cell pertussis vaccine*
- Hib > Haemophilus influenza type b vaccine
- OPV > Live oral polio vaccine
- IPV > Inactivated polio vaccine
- Var > Varicella vaccine
- HepB > Hepatitis B vaccine
- MenC > Meningococcal meningitis C conjugate vaccine
- MMR > Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine
- R > Rubella vaccine
- BCG > Bacillus Calmette-Guérin vaccine
- Pn7v > Pneumococcal heptavalent conjugate vaccine

* Given as part of DTaP, DTwP, DT, dT, dTaP or dtap.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

- 112** > Main general emergency number
This number can be dialled from any mobile phone, telephone booth or landline phone, for any kind of emergency.
- 104** > Ambulance [+36 1 350 3737]
- 107** > Police
- 105** > Fire Department -

24-HOUR CALL OUT MEDICAL SERVICES [these services may charge a fee]

DENTAL EMERGENCIES

Semmelweis University

Department of Community Dentistry
H-1088 Budapest, Szentkirályi street 40.
+36 1 317 6600, +36 1 317 0951
Fax: +36 1 317 9190
fszoi@dent.semmelweis-univ.hu

PATIENT VISITING

On work days:
8.00–13.00, 14.00–19.00
Emergency dental care (ügyelet):
20.00–7.00
On Saturday, Sunday, non-working day and holidays:
8.00–13.00, 14.00–19.00
Medical Hotline: +36 1 200 0100

OTHER 24-HOUR SERVICES

188 > Emergency Road Service

Emergency Sewage Service: +36 80 455 000
Emergency Electrical Service: +36 40 383 940
Water Department: +36 40 247 247
Gas Department [reporting leaks]: +36 1 477 1333
English Language Emergency Helpline: +36 1 438 8080

PRIVATE MEDICAL SERVICES

Firstmed Centers

H-1015 Budapest Hattyú u. 14., H-1021 Budapest, Hűvösvölgyi út 181.
www.firstmedcenters.com
+36 1 224 9090

Dr. Rose Medical Centre

H-1051 Budapest Széchenyi tér 7-8.

Tower "C" Floor 6

www.drrose.hu

+36 1 377 6737

Swiss Prémium Health Centre

H-1123 Budapest, Nagyenyed u. 8-14.

info@swissclinic.hu

+36 1 225 0566

www.swissclinic.hu/en/

Customer Service, Appointments

info@swissclinic.hu

+36 1 225 0566

Medicover

Alkotás Point Business Center

H-1123 Budapest Alkotás út 50.

www.medicover.com

+36 1 465 3100

Eiffel Square Office Building, ground floor

H-1062 Budapest Teréz Krt 55-57.

+36 1 465 3100

Rózsakert Medical Center

Rózsakert Shopping Center 3rd floor

H-1026 Budapest,

Gábor Áron u. 74-78/a.

www.rmc.hu/en

+36 1 392 0505

Vital Center Margitsziget

H-1138, Margitsziget

www.vitalcenter.hu

+36 1 340 4518, +36 1 329 2968

24-HOUR PHARMACIES

Pharmacies (Gyógyszertár or Patika in Hungarian) are indicated with a green cross. Every district has at least 1 pharmacy open 24-hours a day,

mostly at major road junctions. Medical prescriptions are not accepted anywhere except pharmacies, although many common basic medicines, such as aspirin, can be bought without a prescription. www.ogyei.gov.hu/gyogyszertarkereso.

DOCTORS

You are free to choose your own general practitioner under the public healthcare system. A doctor is assigned to the area where you live, but if you have your own choice, or have found a medical centre that speaks your native language, you can change your doctor. Office hours are normally between 8.00-12.00 and 16.00-20.00. If you become ill at the weekend, there is always an on-duty medical service available in every district. You can enquire at the non-stop pharmacies for more information.

**About Healthcare****THE HUNGARIAN SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM**

The Hungarian healthcare system is largely free of charge for anyone who can provide a Hungarian social insurance number and card (TA szám, TA kártya) or who holds a valid EU International Health Card (EHIC). Medical services in Hungary are substantially financed by the state budget, which takes a monthly contribution from every locally contracted employee's salary, and no payment is claimed for the actual treatment. With a valid Hungarian social security account, you are entitled to full medical care, excluding prescription charges.

HEALTHCARE FOR EU CITIZENS

EU citizens who are not paid a salary locally but who possess an EHIC are also treated free of charge to an extent. Only those treatments are free of charge, which are considered urgent and necessary by a given doctor. Any additional hospital care or the cost of non-urgent care would need to be settled personally by the patient. When using the EHIC, reimbursement of the cost of treatment varies from country to country, depending on the agreement between Hungary and the given country. Usually the two health insurance authorities settle the re-invoicing of the cost. Before arrival, please investigate this with your own state health authority.

With the EHIC only urgent and necessary treatments are provided free of charge. Just as in other countries, you are entitled to hold private medical insurance as well and this is certainly something we recommend for anyone who is not fully covered by the state healthcare system. Holding a private medical insurance policy does not exclude you from having to contribute to the state system, so the monthly contributions will still be taken from your monthly salary.

Should your employment be terminated for any reason, then after 46 days of the termination, you need to take out a private contract with the Hungarian state healthcare authority. The fee payable could be as little as 9600 HUF per month (2023 figure), but could be significantly higher, depending on the level of social security contributions you have paid during the current financial year to date.

For a family member of an EU citizen who has been living in Hungary for a year (this is counted from the issuing date of the address card) it is mandatory to make a private contract with the state health authority. The fee payable depends on the given year's fees when you have to make this contract.

For children under the age of 18 the health care system is free of charge, though parents will need to apply for a Hungarian social security card for any child, once they have obtained a Hungarian Registration and an address card. A baby born in Hungary automatically receives the Hungarian social security card, once the registration at the immigration office has been completed. The Hungarian social security card is delivered to the address that has been provided for the registration card request.

HEALTHCARE FOR NON-EU CITIZENS

A Non-EU citizen is entitled to take any medical care free of charge in case he or she is on Hungarian payroll and an employee of a Hungarian company, just like their Hungarian and EU colleagues.

An employee's family members in any case need to present proof of comprehensive health insurance for their residence permit application. This is important as family members of non-EU employees on local payroll are not covered by the employee's Hungarian state social security payments.

It is possible for non-EU family members to access the state healthcare system via a private contract with the health authority. The fee payable is calculated as follows: for children under the age of 18, 30% of that given year's



gross minimum monthly wage needs to be paid per month. For applicants over the age of 18, the percentage is higher, at 50% of the gross minimum wage. Once the first payment is made, the individual has the right to urgent and necessary treatment only. Full access to the system is only given after 7 months' payments have been made. An applicant may gain full access to the system immediately but then they must pay in 7 months' contributions immediately. As a non-EU resident it's not compulsory to contract with the Hungarian state healthcare system, but it certainly is compulsory to hold private health insurance that would cover any possible eventualities.

PRIVATE HEALTHCARE

There are plenty of private clinics and healthcare options for anyone looking to be treated in English or another foreign language and in more comfortable surroundings than one might find in a typical state hospital or clinic in Hungary. Payment options include already holding an international insurance policy that one of the private clinics accepts or it is also possible to take out a local private policy with one of the clinics. This would give coverage up to a certain point but it's important to note that most of the private clinics don't include in-patient care or more complex diagnosis such as CT and MRI and if the patient doesn't hold state health insurance or a comprehensive international health insurance policy. In general it's best to talk to at least one private clinic and get a feel for what they do and do not cover.

Settling In

Telephone & Internet

There are various types of phone and Internet service available on contract with a range of Hungarian service providers. Combined TV, internet and phone packages are available via cable and telephone operators and the network coverage is generally very good. Prices depend on the type of service package, but expect around €20-50 a month, depending on the TV channels and speed of internet chosen.

The largest providers of telephone and Internet services in Hungary today are Telekom, Yettel, Vodafone and Digi. Most providers have English speaking staff at major outlets, though some are better than others in this respect. Having a relocation service provider like Inter Relocation is still pretty much essential though. The websites for the major providers are as follows:

Telekom

www.telekom.hu/lakossagi/english

Vodafone

www.vodafone.hu/english

Yettel

en.yettel.hu

DIGI

www.digi.hu/szolgalatasaink (Hungarian only)

When you order a package, you will have to schedule an appointment with the technicians to set it up in your home. You may just get a network cable and co-axial cable for TV and internet access, or the package may come with a set-top box and remote control. The package should work straight

away; you will receive an invoice from the service provider each month which, depending on your package, may include the basic monthly fixed fee and then consumption on top of that. You can pay in cash or by credit card at post offices or make a bank transfer to the provider's account. Also, you can easily and quickly pay your invoice on the My Vodafone / Telekom / Yettel HU / MyDIGI application.

Electricity

The electricity company is MVM Csoport (mvm.hu/en/) and depending on which part of the country you are living in the name of the company could be a slight variation on this name.

You will receive an invoice from them every month which will include the monthly consumption calculated according to the meter reading, or an estimated fee according to the previous year's consumption. If you prefer to pay for what you consume it is possible to dictate your own monthly meter reading online, though the websites are currently only available in Hungarian. Payment can be made in cash at the post office, or done by bank transfer. It is also possible to pay by direct debit, as well as via their app. For this you should sign a contract with the service provider that the monthly amount of your invoice can be automatically debited from your account. Inter Relocation is happy to assist you with filling out the forms.

Gas

Major gas companies in Hungary:

- E.ON Dél-dunántúli Gázhálózati Zrt - Fejér, Tolna, Baranya counties
www.eon.hu
[the following website, is more suitable for the above-mentioned counties: www.eon.hu/hu/rolunk/vallalatcsoport/halozati-engedelyes-cegek/eon-del-dunantuli-gazhalozati-zrt.html]
- MVM Égáz-Dégáz Földgázhálózati Zrt. Bács-Kiskun, Csongrád, Békés, Győr-Moson-Sopron, Komárom-Esztergom, Veszprém, Vas counties
www.mvmhalozat.hu/edgaz

- > MVM Next – Budapest
www.mvmnext.hu/foldgaz
- > E.ON Közép-dunántúli Gázhálózati Zrt - Somogy, Zala, Veszprém counties
www.eon.hu
[the following website is more suitable for the above mentioned counties: www.eon.hu/hu/rolunk/vallalatcsoport/halozati-engedelyes-cegek/eon-kozep-dunantuli-gazhalozati-zrt.html]
- > OPUS TIGÁZ Zrt. – Bács-Kiskun, Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Csongrád, Fejér, Hajdú-Bihar, Heves, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok, Komárom-Esztergom, Nógrád, Pest Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg counties
www.tigaz.hu
[this website directs you to the new one, therefore still accurate. Find the new website highlighted in yellow] <https://www.opustigaz.hu/>

Water and sewage

The water supplier in Budapest is Fővárosi Vízművek Zrt. www.vizmuvek.hu/en, while the sewage supplier is Fővárosi Csatornázási Művek Zrt. www.fcsm.hu/en/. Outside of the capital, many different companies providing water and sewage services. Generally, the payment methods are as above, but as there are many companies, we are happy to find out any information regarding the service contract and the payment in your area.

Garbage collection

Many towns in Hungary, and lots of districts in Budapest, ask their residents to sort their trash into separate categories (plastic, white glass, coloured glass, metal, paper, etc.) and provide different coloured bins for the purpose. The frequency of rubbish collection varies from one location to another. In many areas of Budapest there is a collection twice a week, in the suburbs it tends to be once a week.

House Manager

The house manager's role – if you have one – is to take care of the apartment building, to clean or arrange the cleaning of the communal areas, and to liaise with the management company of the building when problems arise. He/she is normally available for an appointment by prior arrangement. This is a relationship that is definitely worth investing in. The house manager often knows many people in the area, therefore could be a good source of local plumbers, electricians etc. He/she could be helpful when it comes to taking in deliveries when you are away, letting people in to read the electricity or gas meters and generally keeping an eye on security. It might be prudent to give a small Christmas gift to thank them for any extra help they give you.

Floor numbers and entry doors in buildings

Many apartment buildings in Hungary have main doors which require a code to be tapped-in on a keyboard near the door in order to open them. If you do not know the entry code, there is usually a list of names corresponding to each apartment.

In older buildings, elevators may not have automatic doors. Make sure that you close the door (sometimes both the inner and outer doors) when entering or exiting; otherwise the lift will not function.

As you walk into the block, you are on the földszint – the ground floor level. The first floor in Hungary is thus what is described in some other countries as the second floor, which can lead to confusion. Things can get really confusing when there is also a “magasföldszint”, an upper ground floor between the actual ground floor and the first floor.

Safety in your New Home

When first arriving in Budapest, many expatriates notice how many ground floor apartments have wrought iron bars on the windows and how security bars or gates on apartment doors are commonplace. Crime in Hungary on the whole is extremely low, especially violent crime, but in what is still a relatively poor country, burglary is relatively common so it's wise to ensure that the home you rent in Budapest is reasonably secure.

Prevention is certainly better than cure so if your apartment has security measures in place, use them every time you leave the property empty, even for a few hours. A security bar or gate makes breaking and entering that much harder, as does ensuring any windows that are accessible are locked or shuttered, if possible. Most houses have a good alarm system fitted, as do many apartments and it is relatively inexpensive and very wise to consider having a contract with one of the professional security companies like Multialarm, RIMI Security, Pro-Sec, etc.]. These are very professional organisations and have patrols with armed, off-duty policemen who can make arrests and liaise with the authorities in Hungarian for you.

Some insurance companies will only provide household contents cover for a property if it either has bars on the windows or shutters fitted, or an alarm system connected to the police or a security firm.

It is always a good idea to leave a set of keys with someone you trust or with the concierge of your apartment block if you go away, even for the weekend, in case of emergencies.

Household insurance cover

Your landlord will generally be contractually bound to insure the property you rent but this will not include the household goods you bring with you. If you move your household goods to Hungary, the insurance covers on those goods ends on the day you sign that you have received them from the movers. Household goods contents insurance is relatively cheap in Hungary

and certainly worth considering. Contact your Inter Relocation consultant for assistance with finding a good insurance policy.

What to do in the event of theft?

- Call the police or universal emergency number [112]. They should come out to investigate and at least examine the break in and dust for finger prints. They will ask you to make a formal statement listing all missing items.
- Advise your insurance broker of the break-in by phone and then by email or registered letter (whichever is required according to the policy) within two working days. This letter needs to include your name and address, policy number, the date you discovered the theft, a list of what you think has been stolen and a copy of any statement given to the police, or a copy of a receipt if you have made a verbal complaint.

Places Of Worship

CHURCH OF CHRIST IN BUDAPEST

1122 Budapest, Maros u. 23. 1st floor

Regular services are held weekly.

Sunday Worship Service at 10 am. **Sunday Bible Study** at 11 am.

Tel.: +36 30 738 5137

Email: krisztusegyhaza@gmail.com

www.kregyhaza.hu/index_e.php

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

1173 Budapest, 502 u. 19.

Service times: Sunday 10:00 am, 11:00 am & 5:00 pm; Thursday 6:30 pm

Tel.: +36 1 259 0608, +36 30 907 8064

bibliabaptistabudapest.webnode.hu

GOLGOTA CHAPEL

1073 Budapest, Erzsébet Krt, 13.

Services: *Sunday* 8.00 am, 10.00 am, 12.00 noon, 6.00 pm;

Monday 6.00 pm; *Wednesday* 5.00 pm, 7.00 pm

Tel.: +36 1 332 2499, +36 20 322 1222

Email: budapest@golgota.hu

golgotabudapest.hu/en/

DANUBE INTERNATIONAL CHURCH

1119 Budapest, Etele út 55. Evangelical, non denominational service.

Sunday service: 10.30am

www.danubechurch.org

INTERNATIONAL BAPTIST CHURCH

1027 Budapest, Törökvész út 48-54.

Móricz Zsigmond Gimnázium

Sunday: 10.30 am with Coffee Fellowship at 10am

Communion: 2nd Sunday of each month

Email: ibcbudapest@gmail.com

www.ibcbudapest.org

INTERNATIONAL CHURCH OF BUDAPEST

1037 Budapest, Kiskorona u. 7.,

Óbuda Community Center

Sunday services 10.30 am.

Tel. (pastor): +36 30 269 9730

Email: info@church.hu

www.church.hu

ST. COLUMBA'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1064 Budapest, Vörösmarty u. 51.

Sunday services at 11.00 am.

Tel.: +36 30 567 6356

www.reformatus.hu/mutat/6861/

ST. MARGARET'S ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL CHAPLAINCY

1088 Budapest, Szentkirályi utca 51.

Sunday services 10.30 am

Tel.: +36 20 269 5161

Email: anglicanbudapest@gmail.com

www.anglicanbudapest.org

THE BIBLE SPEAKS CHURCH OF HUNGARY

1089 Budapest, Golgota u. 3.,

Golgota Közösségi ház

Tel.: +36 1 210 2028

E-mail: info@bibliaszol.hu

www.bibliaszol.hu/en/

JEWISH SYNAGOGUE OF BUDAPEST

1075 Budapest, Síp utca 12.

Tel.: +36 1 413 1515

Email: aviv@aviv.hu

www.dohany-zsinagoga.hu

BUDAPEST MECSET

1119 Budapest, Fehérvári út 41.

Tel.: +36 1 208 4040

www.iszlam.com/english

Clubs and Associations

Meeting People

If, as an accompanying spouse, you have chosen not to take up full time paid employment whilst in Hungary, or if for any reason this is not an option, there are many alternatives open to you. At first, however, we recommend that you take time to settle in and discover your new surroundings. There is an enormous amount to visit and explore.

Many associations exist which could be of interest, either as a source of information or possibly as an opening for volunteer work. These groups are an excellent way to meet people, find out more about your new home from experienced expatriates and locals and to learn new skills. Here are just a few:

IWCA – INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S CLUB ASSOCIATION

The International Women’s Club Association of Budapest (IWCA) is a non-profit, charitable organization founded in 1981 by a group of enterprising women from the international and diplomatic communities in Budapest. Today, the Association has more than 230 members representing more than 35 nationalities.

The main purpose of the organization is to sponsor and support charitable activities related to health care and education in Hungary, and especially to support hospitals and children suffering from disease or disability. In addition, the organization promotes the development of good relationships between women of the international community and the host country in order to increase their knowledge of the people and the culture of Hungary. The organization also supports the Club, which provides opportunities for women in the international community to meet and engage in social and cultural activities. The Club organizes meetings and programs which fulfil the goals and principles of the Association and cooperates with other organizations sharing similar goals, whenever possible.

The IWCA supports the Mother Theresa Soup Kitchen, the Salvation Army, orphanages, hospitals, family assistance centres and a variety of other organizations in need.

For more information about the organization, contact the IWCA Office at Hajós utca 5. H-1065 Budapest. Email: chairwomaniwc@gmail.com or find them on Facebook: facebook.com/IWCofBudapest/

PWA - THE PROFESSIONAL WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION

The Professional Women’s Association of Budapest works to expand the advancement of women in diverse professions through providing career advancement capabilities, work/life strategies, resource sharing and networking opportunities. This is an international organization working to strengthen the professional women’s community in Hungary. The PWA can be reached at hajni.denes@gmail.com or by going to www.pwa.hu/our-mission.

NAWA – THE NORTH AMERICAN WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION

The North American Women’s Association (NAWA) of Budapest is dedicated to fostering a sense of community to North Americans and to other members of the Expat community from all over the world who would like to communicate in English. NAWA offers a forum for all members to participate with the local community through events and charitable activities and the opportunity to interact, embrace and learn from the many cultures represented by its membership.

By providing opportunities to connect with others, the association aims to encourage friendship and help members make the most of their stay in Hungary.

Budapest offers innumerable opportunities to engage body and mind. NAWA is here to enrich those experiences.

For more information visit their website www.nawabudapest.com or email nawamembership@gmail.com.

AMCHAM – THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN HUNGARY

The American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary (AmCham Hungary) was established in November 1989 as the very first AmCham in Central Europe, by 32 American companies. Today, it has grown to become the largest AmCham in the region, with approximately 600 members, representing 22 different countries, more than 60% of the total foreign direct investment in Hungary and more than 50% of Hungary’s annual total exports. AmCham Hungary has also become one of the most respected and influential non-profit, non-political organizations in Hungary, representing not only the interests of American investors in Hungary, but those of the entire international and Hungarian business community.

The mission of AmCham Hungary is “to be the leading representative for US and international business in Hungary, and to promote the global competitiveness of the country.” AmCham Hungary achieves this mission by creating and maintaining relations between the business community and government agencies in Hungary. Internationally, AmCham Hungary also draws strength from working closely with the European Council of American Chambers of Commerce (ECACC), which represents more than 14,000 companies and \$300 billion in investment in Europe and the USA, as well as major policy makers from both the United States and the European Union.

For membership information, contact Ildikó Takács-Berka
E-mail: ildiko.takacs-berka@amcham.hu,
+361 428 2084
www.amcham.hu

BUDAPEST HIKERS

Budapest Hikers is about much more than hiking. They are a vibrant International community that encourage their members to socialize with each other, go outside and be active.

They provide a range of activities and their main goal is to get people outdoors and into the habit of enjoying the natural environment around us. The modern lifestyle of working in an office, sitting in a classroom or being sat in front of a computer all day isn't healthy. Such an attitude can lead to people being lazy and missing out on the opportunities presented by being outside and around others. Their community provides people with an easy way to break out of these habits and form new, healthy ones in the Hungarian countryside.

They organize hikes and camping events to share our passion with their members.

Their camping events occur several times a year and consist of a range of outdoor activities and an overnight stay. There are plenty of opportunities to be active at our camps as we offer hikes, fun & games, swimming and more. For more information visit their website: <https://budapesthikers.com> or their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/budapesthikers

Furnishing Your Home

As Budapest and the bigger towns in Hungary have lots of furniture and household shopping facilities, our aim here is just to point out a few places where you will be able to find reasonably priced furnishings for your home.

INTERIORS & FURNITURE

For all basic furniture, large selection of couches, coffee tables, beds, carpets, kitchen utensils, fabrics, knick-knacks, accessories, gifts and home decor.

BO Concept

www.boconcept.hu
1023 Budapest, Árpád fejedelem útja 26-28.
Óbuda Gate Center
Tel.: +36 1 346 3040
Email: info@boconcept.hu

BoConcept – in the Max city Shopping Mall

2045 Törökbálint, M1 motorway - 14th exit
Tel.: +36 23 532 238
Email: maxcity@boconcept.hu

Dinoland (Children's furniture)

www.dinoland.wlap.hu
H-1013 Budapest, Pauler u. 8.
Tel.: +36 30 594 0224
Email: info@dinoland.hu

Hollóházi Porcelain

3999 Hollóháza, Károlyi út 11.
Tel.: +36 47 950 370
Email: info@hollohazi.hu
Shops: www.bolt.hollohazi.hu/index.php/hu/markaboltjaink/mark-hollohaza



IKEA

www.ikea.hu

1148 Budapest, Örs vezér tere 22.

Tel.: +36 1 460 3160

2040 Budaörs, Sport u. 2-4.

Tel.: +36 1 460 3160

1239 Budapest, Bevásárló u. 4

Tel.: +36 1 460 3160

XXXLutz

www.xxxlutz.hu

1135 Budapest, Lehel u. 51.

Tel.: +36 1 4854 400

2040 Budaörs, Kinizsi utca 5.

Tel.: +36 23 801 800

Other XXXLutz stores: www.xxxlutz.hu/aruhazaink_elerhetosege

Mobili Mania

www.mobilimania.hu

1132 Budapest,

Victor Hugo utca 45.

Tel.: +36 1 321 7310

Email: info@mobilimania.hu

Max City Furniture Mall

www.maxcity.hu/main.php?Lang=EN

Tel.: +36 23 532 660

E-mail: office@max-city.hu

ELECTRICAL

For all white goods, televisions, mobile devices, computer equipment etc.

Media Markt

www.mediamarkt.hu

WestEnd City Center, +36 1 238 7555

Árkád, +36 1 432 3900

Budaörs, +36 23 445 600

More locations around the country:

www.mediamarkt.hu/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/MultiChannelMyStore

HARDWARE STORES

Multipurpose hardware stores, with gardening departments.

OBI

www.obi.hu

1148 Budapest, Fogarasi út 28-54.

1191 Budapest, Vak Bottyán utca 75/A [KÖKI Terminál]

1117 Budapest, Hunyadi utca 23. [Savoya Park]

1095 Budapest, Soroksári út 33.

1239 Budapest, Bevásárló utca 6.

1046 Budapest, Szent Imre utca 1.

Other OBI stores:

www.obi.hu/barkacsaruhaz/markt-finder/

Praktiker

www.praktiker.hu

1034 Budapest, Bécsi út 136.

1152 Budapest, Városkapu utca 5.

1095 Budapest, Mester utca 87.

2040 Budapest, Malomkő utca 3.

Other Praktiker stores:

www.praktikerwebshop.hu/praktiker/aruhazak/9/

Bauhaus

www.bauhaus.hu

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SHOPS, MARKETS AND SUPERMARKETS

This is not an exhaustive list, but gives an idea of where to shop and what you may expect to find. Many large supermarkets stock international products to some degree or other, especially Tesco and Auchan. The quality and range of goods available is improving all the time, but you may find sometimes that fresh produce is not up to standard.

The street and indoor markets rely more heavily on seasonal produce so you can see what is in season by looking at what is on sale in abundance. This can be quite refreshing after the experience in western supermarkets where everything is available all year round.

At first food shopping in Hungary can be a daunting experience if you cannot understand what is written on the labels and you cannot find what you are looking for. One tip is the recently set up online shopping site from Tesco. Whilst our intention is not to encourage expatriates only to shop at a major UK supermarket, the entire site is in English, which allows a new arrival to find products in English, identify them by picture and then even if they don't actually wish to buy online from Tesco or even go to Tesco to buy said products, it is possible at least to search in English and find what one is looking for. We hope that this guide also serves to make shopping as a new arrival a little easier.

FOOD SHOPS

Budapest is awash with smaller general shops, ranging from Tesco Express, CBA and Spar to the ubiquitous "Non-Stop" or ABC. These little corner shops will generally be pokey, not up to the same standards of organisation and with a fairly narrow selection but just as at home, they tend to be open when nothing else is and are ideal for that forgotten item from the weekly shop or for daily purchases like bread.

MARKET HALLS

Budapest has many market halls. These are the most interesting ones: Vásárcsarnok on Fővám tér, district V. [also known as the Great or Grand Market Hall]

Originally the city's main wholesale market, the Vásárcsarnok was opened in 1897, along with the other four, and has a beautiful Zsolnay porcelain-tiled roof. The covered market has three floors. On the ground floor is all the fresh produce – fruit, vegetables, meat, cheese and bread. On the upper floor you'll find Hungarian crafts and some small eateries. The lower ground floor focuses mainly on fish and seafood.

Fehérvári út Market

1117 Budapest, Kőrösi J. u. 7-9.

Next to Allee Shopping Center. Has a wide range of food, a few pickled vegetable stalls can still be found at the back.

Hunyadi tér Market [District VI.]

Sells vegetables, pickles, and smoked meats. There is also a flea market on Hunyadi tér.

Rákóczi tér Market Hall (District VIII.)

1084 Budapest,

Rákóczi tér 7.

Located in a beautiful national monument building and was built in the 1890s.

Sells fruit and vegetables, meat and dairy products and fish.

Belvárosi Market on Hold utca (District V.)

1054 Budapest,

Hold u. 13.

Recently renovated, this market sells a wide range of produce and also features a Chef's Row on the upper floor with some great restaurants opening street food outlets.

Lehel tér (District XIII.)

1134 Budapest,

Lehel tér

Next to Lehel tér on Váci út, this market re-opened several years ago in a building built in the shape of cruise liner.

Fény Utcai Piac (District II)

1024 Budapest,

Lövőház u. 12.

Another daily market found at the back of the Mammut Shopping Centre near Széll Kálmán tér on the corner of Fény utca and Retek utca. Sells fruit, vegetables, meat, speciality cheeses as well as flowers and herbs.

Kolosy Téri Piac (District III)

1036 Budapest,

Kolosy tér 2.

This is a small market with a canvas roof in the middle of a courtyard. Stallholders mainly sell fruit and vegetable with individual shops in the surrounding buildings. There is a baker, a flower shop, a shoe shop as well as clothes shops and a snack bar.

Flórián tér (District III.)

1033 Budapest,

Flórián tér 6.

Found behind the Flórián tér shopping centre on Vörösvári út, this market sells fruit, vegetables, meat, cheese and bread and is open daily.

STREET MARKETS

These usually take place on Saturday mornings. Keep your eyes open for them.

Vörösvári út (District III)

1033 Budapest,

Vörösvári út 88-96.

(In front of the Szent Margit Clinic)

Sells clothes, household goods, fruit and vegetables.

Árpád Fejedelem:

1023 Budapest,

Árpád fejedelem útja 8.

A large fruit and vegetable market, though there are also bread, household goods, and a few craft stalls.

SUPERMARKETS

Hungary plays host to two major hypermarket chains, Auchan and Tesco. Both companies have several extremely large and in the case of Tesco some smaller, city centre outlets.

Tesco

This British company has been operating in Hungary since the late 90s. Two of Budapest's Tesco Hypermarkets were at one point the company's largest stores in the world. Many of their shops including the flagship Budaörs hypermarket have an aisle of foreign-sourced goods, ranging from British favourites to specialist foods from Italy, Greece, South-East Asia and so on.

Auchan

Auchan has also been around in Hungary for more than ten years. Their hypermarkets also tend to be very large and stock everything from white goods to car tyres, in addition to the standard supermarket fare. You will also find an international and a bio food section at most branches of Auchan.

Another popular supermarket is Spar, which has plenty of supermarkets both in downtown and mall-based locations. Spar tends towards good quality produce but does not have the expat produce you might more readily find at Tesco or Auchan.

SHOPPING MALLS

MOM Park (District XII.)

1123 Budapest, Alkotás u. 53.

Tel.: +36 1 487 5500

www.mompark.com

This shopping centre has various clothes, shoes and household boutiques as well as a major supermarket and other fruit and vegetable shops. There is a food court, a German pub and multiplex cinema as well.

www.mompark.com

WestEnd City Center (District XIII.)

1062 Budapest,

Váci út 1-3.

Tel.: +36 1 238 7777

www.westend.hu/en

A vast shopping centre on three floors with many clothes, shoes and household shops. Marks and Spencer as well as many well-known designer shops are also there. There is a multiplex cinema, food court, and other restaurants such as TGI Fridays and Leroy's. There is plenty of parking space both underground and in the adjoining multi-story car park.

Mammut (District II.)

1024 Budapest,

Lövőház u. 2-6.

Tel.: +36 1 345 8020, +36 1 345 8333

www.mammut.hu/en

Mammut features two connecting buildings and is near Széll Kálmán tér in Buda, with a market at the back. There are a selection of clothes, shoes, toys and household goods shops, including a large Marks and Spencer. There is a food court in one building and a multiplex cinema, a bowling alley and other fast food outlets and restaurants in the other. A Spar supermarket can be found in the basement of one of the buildings. There is plenty of underground parking.

Rózsakert Shopping Center (District II.)

1026 Budapest,

Gábor Áron u. 74.

Tel.: +36 1 391 5998, +36 80 20 11 80

www.rozsakert.hu

Has a Kaiser Supermarket as well as fishmonger, wine shop, clothes boutiques, food court, post office, dry cleaners, internet café, gym and car valet. There is also a good, if expensive, vegetable shop, together with a deli and French bread shop. There is a café on the first floor with an outdoor terrace at the back. It also has a large grass area with toys suitable for small children. There is parking underground.

Rózsadomb Shopping Center (District II.)

1025 Budapest, Törökvész út 87-91.

Tel.: +36 1 345 8400

www.rozsadombcenter.hu

Features a Spar Supermarket as well as a few clothing boutiques, a post office, dry cleaners, a hairdresser and a small bowling alley with a restaurant. There is parking both outside and underground.

Duna Plaza (District XIII.)

1138 Budapest, Váci út 178.

Tel.: +36 1 465 1666

www.dunaplaza.hu

Mall on three floors, mainly sells clothes, including shops such as Mothercare and Marks and Spencer. It also has a pharmacy, food court, a Hollywood Multiplex Cinema, an ice rink and a bowling alley.

Stop Shop (District II/A.)

1021 Budapest, Hűvösvölgyi út 138.

www.stop-shop.com/en/hungary/budapest-huvoesvoelgy

Shopping centre with a Spar Supermarket and a few clothes boutiques, a dry cleaners, a hairdresser, a book store, and a bank, as well as a small bowling alley and a coffee shop. There is parking outside and underground.

Budagyöngye (District II.)

1026 Budapest,

Szilágyi Erzsébet fasor 121.

Tel.: +36 1 275 0855.

www.budagyongye.com

This was one of the first shopping malls in Budapest and features more small, specialist food shops, a vegetable stand and boutiques as well as a fishmonger and dry cleaners. There is no supermarket at this mall.

Arena Mall (District VIII.)

1087 Budapest,
Kerepesi út 9.

Tel.: +36 1 880 7010

www.arenamall.hu/en

Arena Plaza is one of the youngest and largest malls. It was built on the lot formerly housing a horse racing venue, a few minutes' walk from the public transport junction, Keleti Railway Station.

Campona (District XXII.)

1222 Budapest,
Nagytétényi út 37-43.

Tel.: +36 1 424 3000

www.campona.hu/en

Various clothes and shoe shops, a cinema multiplex, a play area for children, a Tesco, and uniquely, an aquarium.

ÁRKÁD Örs vezér tere (District X.)

1106 Budapest, Örs vezér tere 25.

Tel.: +36 1 433 1400

www.arkadbudapest.hu

Árkád is a popular shopping centre in the Zugló area of the city and is situated on the same square as the Pest branch of IKEA. This mall is home to various brand stores, bookshops, services and restaurants. You'll find everything here under one roof, from the Szamos confectionery through the gym to the cinema.

HEALTH FOOD SHOPS

The supermarkets in Budapest do stock a small range of health foods, but detailed below are a selection of specialist health food shops:

Naturtanya natura II.

Gábor Áron u. 72-74.

[Rózsakert Shopping Center]

Tel.: +36 30 476 80 17

Ökocentrum [Ínyenc Biobolt]

II. Szilágyi Erzsébet fasor 121..

Tel.: +36 1 275 0855/215

Bio ABC-Bioporta

V. Budapest,
Múzeum krt. 19.

Tel.: +36 1 328 0119; +36 1 317 3043

Bio Med

VI. Budapest, Vörösmarty utca 31.

Tel.: +36 1 342 1343

Bioda Biobolt

III. Budapest, Harrer Pál u. 12.

Tel.: +36 1 250 3593

Biofarm-R II.

Budapest,

Zöldlomb utca 38/D

Tel.: +36 1 325 8454

Ecocafe Avenue Gardens

1062 Budapest, Andrásy út 68.

OR Krisztina Plaza,

1013 Budapest, Krisztina krt. 39/B

www.ecocafe.hu/en/

Transport

DRIVING & PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Driving a car in Budapest can be a challenge, especially during peak periods. Long traffic jams are common, and the city centre and main roads leading to the suburbs regularly grind to a halt.

Parking places can be difficult to find. There is limited street parking, though in the last few years more and more underground garages and multi-storey car parks have opened in office buildings, shopping malls and the like. Budapest is divided into parking zones, with different fees applicable in each. Parking tickets must be purchased Monday through Friday, but please be aware that the times and dates vary by location: 8:00–22:00, 8:30–22:00, 8:00–20:00.

You may park free of charge on Saturdays, Sundays and on national holidays. Sometimes when a public holiday falls on a Thursday, the Friday is also given as a holiday but then that day is clawed back by making a nearby Saturday a working day. Be aware of such days as parking is not free of charge when a Saturday is deemed a working day. Download an app on your mobile phone: Budapest Go App, Simple App.

Parking tickets are obtained from street vending machines, and must be displayed on the dashboard, so that it is visible and legible from the outside. It is also possible to register your parking via text message to telephone numbers on the vending machines but be careful, you must remember to cancel the parking period or you risk being charged for the whole day. Mobile providers also charge an admin fee for the service.

The minimum parking period is 15 minutes. Some zones do not allow a stay of longer than 2-3 hours. In outlying districts parking is often free of charge.

Budapest takes pride in its very well-developed public transportation network. Services are relatively cheap, so you should consider using a bus, tram, trolley bus or metro for getting around the city.

A route finder will help you to find your way in Budapest and Hungary on www.utvonalterv.hu. A street-finder can help to find the place where you want to go



at www.utcakereso.hu and of course Google Maps works very well in Budapest. Bus and rail time-tables are available at www.elvira.hu, and www.bkv.hu/en/.

METRO

The Budapest Metro is the capital's subway system. It currently consists of four lines, each with its own number and colour. There are three crossings: at Deák tér line M1 crosses M2 and M3, at Kálvin tér M4 crosses M3 and at Keleti pályaudvar M4 crosses M2.

Tickets must be validated at the entrance before taking the escalator, using the orange-coloured stamping machines, and should be kept until you leave the metro, or validate your QR code if someone has an online ticket bought in Budapest GO or Simple App. At validation, the date and time are printed on the tickets, along with information about where you boarded.

Tickets are checked manually by inspectors, who often set up inspection points at stations near the escalators, but they may inspect tickets anywhere in the metro area, including on moving trains. Tickets or passes must be handed over to them on request. They wear blue or red armbands with a gold inscription, but they may only put on the armband immediately before conducting the actual inspection.

Several metro stations on various metro lines are wheelchair- and pram-accessible. The entire M3 and M4 lines have accessibility features. On line M2, stations such as Örs vezér tere, Pillangó utca, and Puskás Ferenc

Stadion are equipped for accessibility. However, on line M1, also known as the Millennium Underground or Yellow Metro, only three stations are suitable for wheelchair users. It's worth noting that all stations on Line M4 can be accessed from street level via a lift.

There are several types of tickets and passes, with a long list that varies depending on the time and passenger category. Various discounts are available on passes, such as those for full-time students and tickets. These discounts and types of passes change frequently, so please check the Centre for Budapest Transport (BKK) website for more information: bkk.hu/en/tickets-and-passes/

With the exception of the section ticket, which is valid for 30 minutes, all tickets are valid for 60 minutes, within Budapest. One-day tickets, tourist tickets [for 3 days], seven-day travel cards, fortnight, 30-day and yearly passes can be bought too, as well as discounted books containing 10 tickets. A Budapest Card is often recommended for tourists, enabling free public transport in Budapest, but it is only worthwhile if one intends to visit lots of sights and visit museums or galleries within a two or three-day period.

WORKING HOURS AND FREQUENCY

The Metro starts around 4.30am and the last train leaves the terminus around 11.30pm (differs from line to line). Rush hours are between 6 and 8am and between 2 and 5pm on workdays, when trains leave every two or three minutes. Early morning and night trains leave every 10 or 15 minutes. On Christmas Eve, trains usually run only until about 3pm, and there may be other breaks in normal service on other holidays [these are advertised beforehand]. The service is usually extended on New Year's Eve, to help party-goers get home.



usually leaves the terminal around 10.30pm. A few lines keep running during the night. Timetables are given at bus stops. At major public transportation hubs, there's a real-time electronic system that tracks the schedules and departure/arrival times of public transport vehicles.

TICKETS AND PASSES

Tickets and passes are valid on the entire length of bus, tram, trolley bus lines, metro lines, the Millennium Underground, and the cogwheel railway but are only valid on the suburban railway (HÉV) lines within the administrative boundary of Budapest.

Prices of tickets and passes as of December 2023.

For updates, please check bkk.hu/en/tickets-and-passes/prices/

Tickets

Single Ticket HUF 450

Single ticket purchased from drivers HUF 600

30-minute ticket HUF 530

90-minute ticket HUF 750

Block of 10 tickets HUF 4,000

For more ticket options, please check out this link:

bkk.hu/en/tickets-and-passes/prices/

Passes

Budapest monthly pass HUF 9,500

Budapest monthly pass for students HUF 3,450

Budapest monthly pass for pensioners HUF 3,330

Budapest monthly pass for parents with small children HUF 3,450

15-day Budapest pass HUF 6,300

One-day travel card HUF 2,500

Three-day travel-card HUF 5,500

Budapest quarterly pass HUF 28,500

Budapest quarterly pass (business) HUF 31,500

Budapest quarterly pass for students HUF 10,350

Budapest quarterly pass for pensioners HUF 9,990

For more pass options, please check out this link:

bkk.hu/en/tickets-and-passes/prices/

TAXIS

If you are not familiar with the city, taxis can be a relatively good value and easy way to get around the city. Taxis can use bus lanes, which can make journeys quicker during busier times but we still recommend considering using public transport for certain journeys.

In September 2013 a universal standard for quality taxis was implemented in Budapest. A registered taxi will be yellow in colour, must be able to accept payment by credit cards, have air conditioning and work to a standard set of tariffs. The fare to be paid is made up of three components:

Taxi fees from March 2023: basic fee 1100 HUF, distance fee 440 HUF/km, minute fee 110 HUF/min

The fare to be paid is the sum of the initial fare, a per kilometre charge and a fee charged for idle time, should it apply. A tip is not included and it is customary to add 10% on to the total fare, if you are satisfied with the service provided.

The list of fares is visibly displayed on the back door of the cabs, and there should be a list of the conditions of carriage attached to the back of the front seats of the taxi.

Be warned however, the standard of quality for taxis in Budapest is not well policed and there are many unscrupulous taxi drivers who have their cars decked out to look like registered quality taxis but which in fact have meters that seem to have a mind of their own or might take unsuspecting tourists for a longer journey than they actually need. The old rule still applies therefore, always call a reputable taxi firm and wait for the taxi to arrive. Do not hail a taxi in the street, it's just too risky.

Expats all seem to have their favourite taxi firm. Even though since 2013, all registered, quality taxis are on the same tariff, this has only highlighted individual choice based on other factors like dispatchers who speak good English, the politeness of the drivers, the speed of response and so on. These are the main companies that expats tend to choose between:

City Taxi

Tel.: +36 1 211 1111
www.citytaxi.hu
(most favoured by expats over the last 20 years)

Főtaxi

Tel.: +36 1 222 2222
www.fotaxi.hu
(the current contracted official airport taxi company)

Taxi 4

Tel.: +36 1 444 4444
www.taxi4.hu

6x6 Taxi

Tel.: +36 1 666 6666
www.6x6taxi.hu

Bolt Taxi

www.bolt.eu

AIRPORTS

Almost all expatriates' first experience of Hungary will be their arrival at Liszt Ferenc International Airport. This is a modern facility, though Hungary's aim of being a regional transport hub was somewhat damaged by the collapse of the national airline, Malév, a few years back. The slack has mostly been taken up by budget airlines like Ryan Air and Hungary's own Wizzair.

The airport is made up of terminals 2A and 2B. Terminal one was the original passenger terminal but is now only used for cargo traffic. Principally, terminal 2A handles routes to Schengen Zone countries and 2B handles flights to non-Schengen destinations. However, as is so often the case in Hungary, things aren't quite that simple so it's best to check from which terminal your flight departs from or arrives into.

Accessing Liszt Ferenc International Airport

- › **By taxi:** Fő Taxi is the dedicated service provider for the airport. Their tariffs are the same as any other company but they have the best access to the airport and ordering a taxi is easy from the little booths outside the arrivals hall of both terminals. Taxis from other firms can be ordered as usual at the airport of course.
- › **By minibus:** Like most airports, Budapest Airport also operates an Airport Minibus shuttle service. Passengers are taken to their previously agreed address by minibuses with 8 to 11 seats. Multi-lingual drivers know Budapest and its traffic very well, generally taking the simplest and fastest routes. The minibuses are in direct contact with the airport, meaning passengers can ask for information about their outward-bound flight on the way to the airport.
- › **By metro and bus:** Budapest Airport is also relatively accessible by public transport. Passengers are taken by Bus 200E, a direct bus service to Kőbánya-Kispest M3 metro terminal. This service adjusts very well to passenger traffic at the airport. The buses are deliberately large, so large items of luggage can be transported. The service operates frequently and for long hours, providing a link between the city and the airport even after midnight and at early dawn. The blue Metro Line M3 can then get you to Deák Ferenc tér in the city centre. The entire journey takes around 45 minutes.
- › **By bus 100E:** A direct shuttlebus (100E) operates between Liszt Ferenc International Airport and Deák Ferenc tér in the city centre. The price of a single airport shuttle bus ticket is 2,200 HUF as of December 2023.
- › **By car:** The airport can be reached in about 35 minutes from the city in good traffic conditions using what is known as the airport high-speed road. The M0 also serves the airport and can sometimes be better in terms of avoiding a journey through the centre of the city. Parking is plentiful at the airport, both for long and short-term stays. Be careful with parking outside the departure area of the terminal buildings though. Cars are charged after the first 5 minutes and rates are high, even by western European standards.





Cultural Activities

We recommend that you visit the Tourism Office of Budapest website: www.budapestinfo.hu for information on cultural activities. It features details of outings, foreign language guided tours, museums, and all other places of cultural interest in Budapest and the suburbs.

Tourism Office of Budapest

Budapest Festival and Tourism Center
1052 Budapest, Városház utca 9-11.

Telephone: +36 1 486 33 00

E-mail: info@budapestinfo.hu; info@fesztivalvaros.hu

Website: www.budapest.com/travel/tourist_information/information_offices.en.html

Sütő utca Tourinform office

1052 Budapest, Sütő u. 2.

Tel.: +36 1 438 8080

Opening hours: all year Mon.-Sun.: 8h-20h

E-mail: info@budapestinfo.hu

Website: www.tourinform.hu/english

Tourinform-line:

Tel.: + 36 1 438 8080

Monday-Sunday: 7:00-19:00

Visitors to Budapest are always surprised at the number and types of museums in the nation's capital. The country's long and turbulent one-thousand-year history has resulted in a wealth of museum-worthy items, materials and exhibits.

In 2013 the Hungarian government approved an ambitious museum-relocation plan. The €500 million development is going to fundamentally change Budapest's cultural landscape by creating a museum quarter inside the City Park. In general, this is a welcome development. Some of the present institutions don't have the space or viewing platforms their fantastic collections deserve; however, there has also been fierce public debate about the loss of precious green space.

At any rate, as of the date of this publication, here are the Top 13 Museums in Budapest at which locals, expats and travellers can find samples of Hungarian and international art and national treasures.

Hungarian House of Parliament

This turn-of-the-century Gothic Revival complex, located on the Danube's east bank in Pest, is the biggest building in Hungary. It was built when Hungary was the capital of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and three times the size of its current territory. Exhibits include Hungary's Holy Crown and the incredible ornate interior of the former Upper Chamber. To avoid the lines and to ensure entry, it is advisable to purchase your ticket online.

House of Terror

One of the most popular museums in Budapest, the House of Terror is dedicated to remembering the brutalities committed by the Hungarian Fascist party and by the subsequent Soviet-led communist regimes. In a strange twist of fate, both the Hungarian Arrow Cross Party and later the Communist Secret Police occupied this very same building and used it for detention, interrogation, and torture. Old newsreels, interviews with survivors, and curated objects inform the visitor of the everyday cruelty and dysfunctionality of the communist system.

Dohány Street Synagogue and Hungarian Jewish Museum

Europe's biggest synagogue has been the main temple of Budapest's assimilated Jewish community since 1859. The building encloses the Garden of Remembrance, a mass grave for Jews murdered in 1944/45, and the subtle weeping willow Holocaust memorial with victims' names inscribed on the metallic leaves. Admission includes a guided tour of the synagogue and entry to the Jewish Museum.

Ludwig Museum of Contemporary Art

The scenic way to reach Budapest's main outlet for modern artworks is via the Danube promenade, stretching from the Great Market Hall to the museum. Three floors and over 35,000-square-feet of exhibition space are dedicated to contemporary art in an impressive limestone-clad building. The most well-known is the Pop Art collection, but lesser-known Eastern European artists also get equal floor space.

Hungarian National Gallery

Located inside the Royal Palace on Castle Hill, the Hungarian National Gallery has an exhaustive collection of local artworks, from the beginning of Hungary's history (in 1000 A.D.) to the present day. From meticulously carved Gothic winged altars to avant-garde paintings, the museum features works of the country's best known artists. As you take in the artworks, the Danube River bank and the Pest skyline provide a splendid backdrop.

Holocaust Memorial Center

An informative and deeply moving exhibit on the Holocaust in Hungary. In addition to the museum, the venue includes a restored synagogue from 1924 (the second largest in Budapest), a memorial garden with a wall of victims, and a Tower of Lost Communities that lists all Hungarian towns where Jews have ceased to exist as a result of the deportations. The exhibit offers a 21st century museum experience through newsreels, photos, and interactive displays.

Zwack Unicum Museum

Unicum is a famous Hungarian herbal liquor made from a secret formula containing more than forty types of herbs. It was initially prepared for the Habsburg Emperor in the 18th century to aid his digestive problems. A guided tour winds through the plant, where visitors learn about the production



process and get to taste different types of Unicum. If you like the complex taste of this royal concoction, you can fuel up on bottles at the gift shop.

Budapest History Museum

This was the first museum to move into the former Royal Palace in 1967, decades after the building was destroyed in WWII. The museum is split into two main sections. The lower floors show the history of the Royal Palace, featuring the excavated Gothic- and Renaissance-style medieval halls from the 15th century. The top floor presents Budapest's history from the Bronze Age to today.

Victor Vasarely Museum

Hungarian-born and educated Victor Vasarely was the founder of the Op Art movement, a popular form of abstract art that relies on optical illusions and spatial tricks. The roots of Vasarely's art can be traced back to the Bauhaus-type Budapest art school he attended before moving to Paris in 1930. Vasarely and the op art movement achieved worldwide fame in the 1970s.



Robert Capa Contemporary Photography Center

The name of this museum is somewhat misleading because only one of the rooms, with about 50 photos, shows the works of Robert Capa, the iconic Hungarian photographer. Nonetheless, it's a well-curated museum focused on contemporary photography, featuring works of leading international and Hungarian artists. Also, check out the gracious-but-rundown art nouveau building housing these exhibits.

Hungarian House of Photography (Mai Manó House)

For more photography, visit the Mai Manó House down the street from the Robert Capa Center. This eclectic building just off Andrásy Avenue used to be the studio of Manó Mai, a royal court photographer during the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The temporary exhibits present local and international photos ranging across styles and periods.

Goldberger Textile Collection

An interactive, highly informative, and ultimately heart-breaking exhibit about the Goldberger family's thriving textile manufacturing business. The exhibit traces the stages of development from a one-man shop to a vertically integrated conglomerate to which even the Habsburg Emperor, Franz Joseph, paid a visit. Besides family history, visitors can learn about blue-dyeing, roller printing, and screen printing techniques, and can even try their hand at making pattern designs.

[Stained Glass Maker] Miksa Róth Memorial House

Name a famous Budapest building and chances are that its stained glass windows were made at Miksa Róth's renowned atelier (e.g. Hungarian Parliament Building). The museum features 60 or so splendid works of stained glass and over a dozen glass mosaics. A lifelong explorer of new techniques, the exhibits follow Roth's development from eclecticism to art nouveau and art deco.

TIPPING

The following comments on tipping in Hungary are provided as guidelines, not rules. Tipping should naturally be related to the level of service you feel you have received.

Hotels: It is customary to tip certain individuals like the bellboy, concierge, housekeeper, doorman, waiter and cloakroom attendant. The usual tip might be HUF 500 or more as you see fit. In the restaurant a 10-12% tip is customary.

Restaurants: In some restaurants the service charge of 10-15% is included in your bill. If this is the case you certainly should not feel obliged to pay anything in addition. Where no service charge has been applied, a 10% tip is perfectly fair if you're happy with the service provided.

Theatres: A HUF 100-200 tip is usually given to the cloak room attendant.

Hairdresser, beautician: A 10% tip is customary.

Conversion Tables

TEMPERATURE

$$C = [F-32]/1.8, F = [C \times 1.8] + 32$$

F	0	5	14	23	32	41	50	59	68	77	86	98	104	167	212
C	-17.8	-15	-10	-5	0	5	10	15	20	25	30	37	40	75	100

BODY TEMPERATURE

F	98.0	99.0	100.0	101.0	102.0	103.0	104.0	105.0
C	36.7	37.2	37.8	38.3	38.9	39.4	40.0	40.6

OVEN TEMPERATURE

F	85	140	190	250	300	350	410	460	520
C	30	60	90	120	150	180	210	240	270

MEASUREMENT

1 inch = 2.54 cm

1 foot = 30.5 cm

1 yard = 0.914 m

1 mile = 1.609 km

1 square inch = 6.45 cm²

1 square foot = 0.0929 m²

1 square yard = 0.836 m²

1 acre = 0.405 hectares

1 millimetre = 0.039 inches

1 centimetre = 0.032 feet

1 meter = 1.094 yards

1 kilometre = 0.621 miles

SPEED

Miles/hour	25	30	50	55	60	70	80	90	100
Km/hour	40	48	80	89	97	113	129	145	161

LIQUID VOLUME

Pint = 56.83 cl

Quart = 0.946 litre

Gallon [UK] = 4.56 litres

Gallon [US] = 3.79 litres

0.212 Pint = 1 cl

COOKING

grams × 0.035 = ounces

pounds × 0.453 = kilograms

ounces × 28.35 = grams

kilograms × 2.205 = pounds

Imperial Measure

1 ounce

3.5 ounces

0.5 pound [8 ounces]

0.25 pound [4 ounces]

2.2 pounds

1 tablespoon

1 teaspoon

Metric Equivalent

30 grams

100 grams

250 grams

125 grams

1 kilogram

15 grams

5 grams



Useful Reading

GUIDEBOOKS FOR BUDAPEST AND HUNGARY:

The Rough Guide to Budapest is the ultimate guide to this fascinating city. The 20-page, full-colour section will inspire you on where to go and what to see, from the magnificent Parliament building to the atmospheric Jewish quarter. In addition, there are two 4-page inserts: Budapest's Baths' and Musical Traditions.

The new author picks section of all the city's finest hotels and restaurants, will help you decide on the best places to stay, eat and drink, for all budgets. There is extensive coverage of major new museums and attractions, including the Natural History Museum, the Palace of Arts complex and the Holocaust Memorial Centre. The guide also includes details on excursions to nearby Szentendre and Esztergom and comes complete with detailed maps for the entire city.

www.roughguides.com/hungary/budapest-around/

Budapest-Critical-Guide. The book leads you through several easy city walks, spanning architecture, music, varied markets, unusual sights and most important, restaurants and cafes where you can feel and taste the real

spirit of Hungary, as opposed to expensive, poor quality places designed to part tourists from their money.

For a budget traveller looking for a genuine experience, this book is essential. For well-heeled tourists looking for quality, it's equally useful. András Török's insights into Hungarian character are funny and truthful, and his sense of humour makes the book worth reading even if you never visit Budapest.

www.budapest-criticalguide.hu/a-cult-book.html

Magazines and newspapers:

www.expatspress.com

Inter Relocation's very own blog covering a range of subject areas such as gastronomy, culture, retirement to Hungary, business and our own recommendations. This is the must have blog for all new arrivals and old hands alike.

www.welovebudapest.com

A very fine publication that probably created every best top 10 on Budapest you could think of. Well worth following

Budapest Business Journal – www.bbj.hu

Budapest Funzine – www.funzine.hu

Budapest Times – www.budapesttimes.hu

Libraries

CEU Library

1051 Budapest, Nádor utca 9.

FSZEK Library

1088 Budapest, Szabó Ervin tér 1.

International Library

1056 Budapest, Molnár u. 11.

Lexicon

Mini Food Dictionary



Flour / Pastry / Bread

Cornstarch / flour	Liszt / Tészta / Kenyér
Plain flour	Kukorica keményítő/liszt
Wholemeal flour	Finom Liszt
Rice flour	Teljes kiőrlésű liszt
Strudel flour	Ríz liszt
	Rétes liszt

Pasta and pastry (home made)

Noodles	Házi tészta
Strudel pastry	Hosszú metélt
Puff pastry	Rétes tészta
Sweet short pastry	Leveles tészta
	Linzer tészta

Bread Products

White bread	Kenyerek
Brown bread	Fehér kenyér
Wholemeal bread	Barna kenyér
Potato bread	Korpás kenyér
Rye bread	Krumplis / burgonyás kenyér
Sliced bread	Rozs kenyér
Breadcrumbs	Szeletelt kenyér
Cheese scone	Zsemlemorzsa
Bread rolls	Sajtos pogácsa
Crescent shaped rolls	zsemle
	Kifli

Breakfast Cereals

Cornflakes	Reggeliző pelyhek
Muesli	Kukorica pehely
Rice krispies	Müzli
	Ríz pehely

Biscuits

Biscuit	Sütemények / Kékszék
Sweet biscuits	Kékszék
Savoury biscuits	Édes kékszék
Chocolate biscuits	Sós kékszék/kréker
Cookies	Csokis kékszék
Crackers	Teasütemény
Wafers	Sós kékszék
	Ostyá

Cake

Cream cake	Torta, sütemény
Doughnut	Habos torta
Pastry	Fánk
	Tészta, sütemény

Puddings

Dessert	Édességek/desszertek
Ice-cream	Édesség/desszert
Cone	Jégkrém/fagylalt (fagyí)
Tub	Tölcsér
Jelly	Kehely
Meringues	Gyümölcskocsonya
Pancake	Habcsók
	Palacsinta



Dairy Products

Dairy Products	Tejtermékek
Milk	Tej
Long life milk	Tartós tej
Powdered milk	Tejpor
Condensed milk	Sűrített tej
Butter milk	Író
Butter	Vaj

Cream

Cream	Tejszín
Single cream	Habtejszín
Double cream	Főzőtejszín
Whipped cream	Tejszínhab
Sour cream	Tejföl

Cheese

Cheese	Sajt
Cream cheese	Krémsajt
Processed cheese	Ömlesztett sajt
Spread cheese	Kenhető sajt
Goats cheese	Kecskesajt
Ewe cheese	Juhsajt
Cottage cheese	Túró

Yoghurt

Natural yoghurt	Natúr joghurt
Fruit yoghurt	Gyümölcsjoghurt

Eggs

Tojás

Fats / Oils

Lard	Zsír
Margarine	Margarin
Suet	Faggyú
Vegetable oil	Növényi olaj
Sunflower oil	Napraforgó olaj
Cooking oil	Étolaj
Butter	Vaj
Olive oil	Olíva olaj

Zsiradék/ olajok

Meat

Sliced	Szeletelt
Minced	Darált
Cubed	Darabolt
Rashers	Vékony szelet

Pork

Ham	Sonka
Bacon	Bacon/Angolszalonna
Gammon	Füstölt sonka
Chops	Karaj
Hooves / trotters	Csülök
Leg	Comb
Ribs	Oldalas
Spareribs	Tarja
Shoulder	Lapocka

Hús

Sertés

Beef / Veal

Corned beef	Pácolt marha
Brisket	Csontos szegy
Sirloin	Rostélyos
Flank	Vastag szegy
Soft Flank	Puha szegy
Topside / Silverside	Hátsó comb

Marha / Borjú

Shin / Leg	Lábszár
Neck	Nyak
Spareribs	Tarja
Flank	Vastag szegy
Soft flank	Puha szegy
Shoulder	Lapocka
Sirloin	Rostélyos
Heavy shoulder	Vastag lapocka
Ribs	Oldalas
Rump steak	Hátszín/fartő
Roast beef slice	Sült bélszín szelet
Tail	Uszály/Farok

Lamb / Mutton

Chops	Karaj
Leg	Comb
Neck	Nyak
Shoulder	Lapocka
Rump	Hátszín
Skirt	Szegy

Birka / Bárány

Chicken

Breast	Mell
Drumstick	Comb
Leg	Láb
Thigh	Combtő

Csirke

Fowl

Duck	Kacsa
Goose	Liba
Turkey	Pulyka
Game	Vad
Partridge	Fogoly
Pheasant	Fácán
Pigeon	Galamb
Hare	Vadnyúl
Rabbit	Nyúl
Deer	Szarvas
Roe-deer venison	Őz
Wild-boar	Vaddisznó

Szárnyas

Offal

Brain	Agy
Heart	Szív
Kidney	Vese
Liver	Máj
Goose-liver	Libamáj
Marrow	Velő
Sweetbreads	Mirigy
Tongue	Nyelv
Tripe	Pacal

Belsőségek

Meat Products

Salami	Szalámi
Sausages	Kolbász
Garlic sausage	Fokhagymás kolbász
Beefburger	Marha hamburger
Frankfurter	Virsli
Pâté	Kenőmájas/pástétom

Hústermékek



Fish

Carp	Ponty
Cod	Tőkehal
Haddock	Foltos tőkehal
Lemon sole	Kisfejű lepényhal
Plaice	Lepényhal
Whiting	Francia tőkehal
Eel	Angolna
Herring	Hering
Mackerel	Makréla
Pilchards	Szardínia
Salmon	Lazac
Smoked salmon	Füstölt lazac
Sardines	Szardínia
Trout	Pisztráng
Tuna	Tonhal
Skate	Rája

Hal

Ponty
Tőkehal
Foltos tőkehal
Kisfejű lepényhal
Lepényhal
Francia tőkehal
Angolna
Hering
Makréla
Szardínia
Lazac
Füstölt lazac
Szardínia
Pisztráng
Tonhal
Rája

Seafood

Crab	Rák
Lobster	Homár
Prawns	Garnélarák
Shrimps	Apró tengeri rák
Mussels	Éti kagyló
Oysters	Osztriga
Scallops	Fésűkagyló/Szent Jakab kagyló

Tengeri Ételek

Rák
Homár
Garnélarák
Apró tengeri rák
Éti kagyló
Osztriga
Fésűkagyló/Szent Jakab kagyló

Vegetables

Artichokes	Articsóka
Asparagus [white]	Fehér spárga
Asparagus [green]	Zöld spárga
Aubergine	Padlizsán
Beans	Bab
Baked beans	Paradicsomos bab
Runner beans	Futóbab
Bean sprouts	Babcsíra
Beetroot	Cékla
Broccoli	Brokkoli
Brussel sprouts	Kelbimbó

Zöldségek

Articsóka
Fehér spárga
Zöld spárga
Padlizsán
Bab
Paradicsomos bab
Futóbab
Babcsíra
Cékla
Brokkoli
Kelbimbó



Butternut squash	Sütőtök
Cabbage [red]	Vöröskáposzta
Cabbage [white]	Fehérkáposzta
Cabbage [savoy]	Kelkáposzta
Carrots	Sárgarépa
Cauliflower	Karfiol
Celery	Zeller
Chicory	Cikória
Cucumber	Uborka
Garlic	Fokhagyma
Horseradish	Torma
Ice radish	Jégretek
Leeks	Póréhagyma
Lettuce	Saláta
Mushrooms	Gomba
Onions	Hagyma
Onions [red]	Vöröshagyma
Onions [spring]	Újhagyma
Onions [lilac]	Lilahagyma
Parsley	Petrezselyem
Parsnips	Paszternák

Patty pan / summer squash	Patisszon
Peas	Borsó
Peppers [red]	Pirospaprika
Peppers [green]	Zöldpaprika
Peppers [yellow]	Sárgapaprika
Potatoes	Burgonya / Krumpli
Potatoes [chips]	Hasábburgonya
Potatoes [crisps]	Burgonyaszirom
Pumpkin	Tök
Radish	Retek
Sorrel	Sóska
Spinach	Spenót
Sweet corn	Kukorica
Tomatoes	Paradicsom
Turnip	Fehérrépa

Fruits

Apples	Alma
Apricots	Sárgabarack
Avocado	Avokádó
Bananas	Banán
Blackberries	Szeder
Blackcurrants	Fekete ribizli
Blueberries	Áfonya
Cherries	Cseresznye
Sour cherries	Meggy
Dates	Datolya
Figs	Füge
Gooseberries	Egres
Grapes [white]	Fehér szőlő
Grapes [red]	Piros szőlő
Grapefruit	Grapefruit
Kiwi	Kivi
Lemon	Citrom
Limes	Zöld citrom
Lychee [Chinese]	Licsi
Mango	Mangó
Melon [yellow]	Sárgadinnye
Melon [cantaloupe]	Kantalup dinnye

Gyümölcsök



Melon [water]	Görögdinnye
Nectarines	Kopaszbarack/Nektarin
Olives [green]	Zöld olíva
Olives [black]	Fekete olíva
Orange	Narancs
Peach	Őszibarack
Pear	Körte
Pineapple	Ananász
Plum	Szilva
Pomegranate	Gránátalma
Prunes	Aszalt szilva
Quince	Birsalma
Raisins	Mazsola
Raspberries	Málna
Redcurrants	Ribizli
Rhubarb	Rebarbara
Strawberries	Eper
Sultanas	Arany Mazsola
Tangerines	Mandarin

Herbs / Spices

Aniseed	Ánizs
Basil	Bazsalikom
Bay leaves	Babérlevél

Fűszerek

Chamomile	Kamilla
Capers	Kapribogyó
Caraway seeds	Köménymag
Chervil	Turbolya
Chilli powder	Chili por
Cinnamon	Fahéj
Cloves	Lóhere
Coriander	Coriander
Cumin	Kömény
Curry powder	Curry por
Dill	Kapor
Fennel	Édeskömény
Garlic	Fokhagyma
Ginger	Gyömbér
Mint	Menta
Mustard	Mustár
Nutmeg	Szerecsendió
Oregano	Oregano
Paprika	Paprika
Parsley	Petrezselyem
Peppercorns	Egész bors
Ground peppercorns	Őrölt bors
Poppy seeds	Mák
Rosemary	Rozmaring
Saffron	Sáfrány
Sage	Zsálya
Salt	Só
Sesame seeds	Szezám mag
Tarragon	Tárkony
Thyme	Kakukkfű
Turmeric	Kurkuma
Seed	Mag
Powder	Por
Ground	Őrölt
Dried	Szárított

Baking

Baking powder	Sütőpor
Bicarbonate of soda	Szódabikarbóna

Sütés

Cocoa powder	Kakópor
Gelatin	Zselatin
Marmite	Sörélesztő
Vinegar	Ecet
Fresh yeast	Friss élesztő
Dried yeast	Szárított élesztő
Oil	Olaj

Nuts

Almonds	Mandula
Chestnuts	Gesztenye
Chestnut puree	Gesztenyepüré
Hazelnuts	Mogyoró
Coconut	Kókusz
Peanuts	Földimogyoró
Peanut butter	Mogyoróvaj
walnuts	Dió

Olajos magvak

Sugar

Glucose	Glükóz
Granulated sugar	Kristálycukor
Caster sugar	Kristálycukor [finom]
Brown sugar	Barnacukor
Icing sugar	Porcukor
Syrup	Szirup
Treacle	Melasz
Honey	Méz
Jam	Lekvár
Marmalade	Narancslekvár
Mincemeat	Aszalt gyümölcskeverék

Cukor

Confectionary

Chocolate	Csokoládé
Milk chocolate	Tejcsokoládé
White chocolate	Fehércsokoládé
Dark chocolate	Étcsokoládé
Fruit gums	Gumicukor
Peppermints	Borsmenta
Toffee	Tejkaramell

Édességek

Chewing gum	Rágógumi
Marzipan	Marcipán

Sauces / Pickles

Brown sauce	Barna szósz
French dressing	Francia öntet
Mayonnaise	Majonéz
Pickle	Ecetes pác
Salad cream	Salátaöntet/dresszing
Tomato ketchup	Ketchup
Tomato puree	Paradicsom püré
White sauce	Fehér mártás
Cheese sauce	Sajtmártás
Vinegar	Ecet

Flavours

Strawberry	Epres
Chocolate	Csokoládés
Vanilla	Vaníliás
Lemon	Citromos
Caramel	Karamellás

Sour	Savanyú
Sweet	Édes
Bitter	Keserű
Spicy/hot	Csípős/erős

Beverages

Cocoa	Kakaó
Coffee	Kávé
Hot chocolate	Forró csokoládé
Tea	Tea
Coca-cola	Coca-cola
Lemonade	Limonádé
Fruit juice	Gyümölcslé
Orange juice	Narancslé
Tomato juice	Paradicsomlé
Apple juice	Almalé
Grape juice	Szőlőlé

Szósztok / Pácok

Barna szósz
Francia öntet
Majonéz
Ecetes pác
Salátaöntet/dresszing
Ketchup
Paradicsom püré
Fehér mártás
Sajtmártás
Ecet

Ízek

Epres
Csokoládés
Vaníliás
Citromos
Karamellás

Savanyú
Édes
Keserű
Csípős/erős

Italok

Kakaó
Kávé
Forró csokoládé
Tea
Coca-cola
Limonádé
Gyümölcslé
Narancslé
Paradicsomlé
Almalé
Szőlőlé

Mineral water	Ásványvíz
Sparkling water	Szénsavas ásványvíz
Still mineral water	Szénsavmentes ásványvíz
Tap water	Csapvíz

Alcoholic Beverages

Beer	Sör
Cider	Cider/almabor

Wine

Red	Vörös
White	Fehér
Rose	Rozé
Dry	Száraz
Sweet	Édes
Sparkling	Szénsavas
Medium	Félfédes / félszáraz
Port	Portói
Champagne	Pezsgő
Fruit brandy	Pálinka

Alkoholos italok

Sör
Cider/almabor

Bor

Vörös
Fehér
Rozé
Száraz
Édes
Szénsavas
Félfédes / félszáraz
Portói
Pezsgő
Pálinka



Local Products to look out for:

Cakes:

The types of cakes you find in the shops vary slightly but the following are some of the most common:

Dobostorta	Chocolate tart with glazed caramel top
Sacher torta	Rich chocolate cake with jam
Rigó Jancsi	Whipped chocolate cake with chocolate topping
Rétes	Flaky pastry filled with apple, nuts and raisins or poppy seeds
Krémes	Flaky pastry filled with rich cream
Gyümölcs-torta	Fruit on a sponge base with a glaze or cream
Túrótorta	Cottage cheesecake
Minyon	Small portions of almost any of the above with a glaze

Baked goods:

Kalács	Soft sweet bread
Kuglóf	Sweet soft bread with raisins
Piskóta torta	Sponge base
Piskótatekercs	Swiss roll

Pogácsa (bite-sized dough cakes):

Burgonyás / krumplis	Potato
Túrós	Cottage cheese
Káposztás	Cabbage
Tepertős	With crackling
Sajtos	Cheese

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

- > You cannot buy self-raising flour in Hungary, but all you need to do is add baking powder [Sütő por] which comes in 10 gram packets. Add approximately 3 tsps [15 g] baking powder to 225 g plain flour.
- > Fresh yeast [Élesztő] is sold in wrapped, small square blocks wrapped in yellow paper and can be found on the cool shelf
- > Dried yeast [Sütő Élesztő] is sold in small red/orange sachets. A 7 g sachet is equivalent to a 20 g fresh yeast block to be used with approximately 500 g flour. When substituting dried yeast for fresh you will need 1 tbs [15 ml] dried yeast for 25 g fresh.
- > Party Cream – Use in place of butter in sandwiches. Be careful, as some of them are flavoured.
- > Double Cream is hard to track down in Budapest, but mascarpone cheese is a good substitute and is widely available.
- > Kefír – fermented milk products. Good on cornflakes.
- > Be careful with some fruit juice packets, the word rostos indicates that the juice contains fruit fibre.
- > Eggs are not always graded in Hungary. It is advisable to take your own egg boxes to markets or small local shops. Eggs in the large supermarkets may be graded.

USEFUL TRANSLATIONS

Shops	Bolt
Baker	Pék
Butcher	Hentes/Húsbolt
Cake shop	Cukrászda
Coffee shop	Kávézó
Ice-cream parlour	Fagyfaltozó
Sweets shop	Édességbolt
General food store	ABC áruház
Delicatessen	Csemege
Greengrocers	Zöldséges
Fishmonger	Halas
Wine bar	Borozó
Beer hall	Söröző
Restaurant	Vendéglő/Étterem
Simple bar	Büfé
Snack bar	Falatozó

In Conclusion

We hope that you have found the information in this guide useful, and that you have a wonderful stay in Hungary.

At Inter Relocation, we continuously strive to improve the quality and level of service you receive. Your feedback is therefore extremely valuable to us. Should you have any questions or comments during your stay, please feel free to contact us any time.



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