

Activities in Budapest

Sights to see

1) The Buda castle

A must-see for everyone who visits the Hungarian capital. Besides its romantic streets, shops and cafés, the castle includes famous buildings such as the Matthias Church, the Fisherman's bastion, or the National Gallery. Bus 16 takes you up to the castle, but you can also decide to walk from Clark Ádám Square – or take the unique [funicular](#) from there.



2) Gellért hill

Gellért Hill is one of the top tourist attractions of the city thanks to the magnificent panorama from the top of its cliffs facing the Danube. You can climb the hill from two sides: take the stairs by the waterfall at Elizabeth Bridge, or take the gradual, but somewhat longer pathway by the Gellért Bath.

3) [St. Stephan's Basilica](#)

Located near to Deák Ferenc Square, St. Stephan's Basilica is one of the most beautiful and monumental churches of Hungary. Here is found the 'Holy Right', a mummified right hand dedicated to St. Stephan, the first king of Hungary.

4) Heroes Square and Városliget

Heroes Square with the statues of the most famous figures of Hungarian history is among the most popular sights of Budapest. Beyond the Square lies Városliget, the big city park of Budapest, which also includes the Vajdahunyad castle and the Széchenyi thermal bath. To get there, take bus 105 or Metro line 1 (Földalatti) from Deák Ferenc tér.



5) [Opera House](#)

The Hungarian State Opera is the masterpiece of Miklós Ybl, one of the greatest Hungarian architects of all time. The Opera was opened in 1884. The building is a splendid example of the neo-Renaissance style, while its rich ornaments also show a few baroque elements. Check the webpage for opening hours and tours! To get there, take a short walk from Deák Ferenc tér, or take bus 105 or Metro line 1 (Földalatti).

6) Margaret Island

Margaret Island, also called as the 'Lungs of Budapest' is a huge park located on the Danube. Besides having a nice walk, you can also visit the special music fountain, a mini zoo, a Japanese Garden, and the old ruins of the convent where St. Margaret lived. To get there, take tram 4 or 6.



Museums

1) Hungarian National Museum

The Hungarian National Museum (Magyar Nemzeti Múzeum) standing in Kiskörút is the largest museum of Hungary. It is a building of unique beauty, which introduces Hungarian culture and history in approx. 8000 square metres. Throughout the 200+ years since its foundation, the museum has collected a huge amount of artefacts, archaeological, historical, and ethnical relics, which bring closer the history of the people of the Carpathian Basin. Getting there takes a short walk from Astoria metro and bus station.



2) Hungarian National Gallery

Located in the Buda Castle, the Hungarian National Gallery (Magyar Nemzeti Galéria) is the largest public collection documenting and presenting the rise and development of the fine arts in Hungary. Bus 16 can take you there – get off at Dísz Square.

3) House of Terror Museum

The House of Terror (Terror Háza) is a museum and a monument at 60 Andrassy Avenue, at the former headquarters of the communist secret police (ÁVH). Its exhibitions commemorate the victims of the fascist and communist regimes of Hungary in the 20th century, including those detained, interrogated, tortured or killed in the building. You can get there by taking Bus 105 or Metro line 1 (Földalatti), and getting off at Vörösmarty utca. House of Terror is also a short walk from Oktogon metro, tram and bus station.



4) Hospital in the Rock

The captivating history of the Hospital in the Rock (Sziklakórház), an underground hospital turned into a nuclear bunker beneath the Buda Castle was top secret until 2002, but now you can discover this unparalleled experience in person. Nearly 200 life-like wax figures, along with the original furniture and medical equipment help you to journey through time and breathe in the air of World War 2, the Hungarian Revolution of 1956 and the Cold War. To get there, take bus 105 until Krisztina tér, or bus 5 until Alagút utca. From there, the Museum is only a short walk up towards the Buda Castle.

5) Hungarian House of Photography (Mai Manó Ház)

The Hungarian House of Photography (Magyar Fotográfusok Háza), also known as Mai Manó Ház, stands in Nagymező Street. Its main goal is to provide a platform for Hungarian, international, historical, and contemporary photo exhibitions. The Mai Manó Bookshop on the mezzanine floor functions as a photo gallery as well, where visitors can browse photography-themed books amid a unique atmosphere. To get there, take bus 105 or metro line 1 (Földalatti) and get off at Opera station.

6) Memento Park

Displaying the monuments of the Communist Era, this unparalleled park is a powerful reminder of the fall of tyranny. The pieces of this stunning historical collection, the statues and monuments were removed from the streets of Budapest after the collapse of Socialism in 1989-90. The Park is located in the outskirts of Budapest, but there is a bus from Deák Ferenc tér going there daily at 11 o' clock. As an alternative, you can also take metro line 4 until Kelenföld vasútállomás, and take bus 101B, 101E or 150 until Memento Park Station.

Activities

1) Budapest Eye

Located on Deák Ferenc Square, this huge Ferris wheel has altogether 42 cabins that provide picturesque panorama to Deák Square, Andrassy Avenue, the Anker Palace, Király Street, the Buda Hills, the Danube, and to the Basilica from a whole new perspective all year round.

2) Ruin pubs

Located in the shabby, ruined buildings of the 7th district, the Budapest ruin pubs are the eclectic mixture of old furniture and psychedelic design, and a guarantee of a unique atmosphere. The best ruin pubs to try are *Szimpla Kert* (1075 Budapest, Kazinczy utca 14.), *Csendes* (1053 Budapest, Ferenczy István utca 5.), *Instant* (1073 Budapest, Akácfa utca 49-51.), *Fogas Ház* (1073 Budapest, Akácfa utca 51.) and *Mika Tivadar* (1075 Budapest, Kazinczy utca 47.)



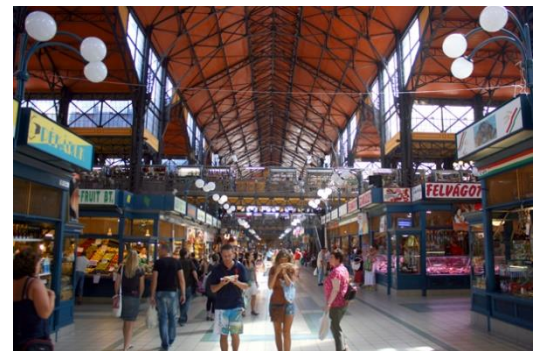
3) Thermal Baths

Hungary is famous for its thermal water, and Budapest has several baths which attract visitors not only with their spa services, but also their beautiful buildings. The most famous one in Budapest to try are [Széchenyi](#) and [Rudas](#) Baths – the latter also offering a night bath option.

4) Shops & design

Budapest has two main shopping streets, The Andrassy Avenue and Váci Street.

If you are interested in local tastes and markets, we suggest you to visit the [Market Hall](#) near Fővám Square. Budapest has also much to offer if you are interested in design products. When taking walks in the 5th and 7th districts of the city you'll eventually bump into shops for unique clothing, jewelry, home décor and souvenirs. You can find a collection [here](#) as an inspiration.



Getting around & discovering

1) Tram 2

Hopping on tram 2 is considered one of the most beautiful and cheapest ways of sight-seeing in Budapest, as it goes by the riverside of Danube, driving you through the iconic buildings from Jászai Mari Square to the National Theatre. And all of this costs a BKK-ticket's price - or two if you want to do a return journey. It is advised to look to your left and right, too, when going in either direction as the tram goes by the Parliament, the Gresham Palace, Chain Bridge and even under Elizabeth Bridge. On the other side of the Danube the Buda Hills can be seen as well as the Castle District and Gellért Bath. And of course you can't be left out of the competing of Corvinus and BME, as they are demanding your attention on the opposite sides of the river.

2) BKK boat service

BKK boats D11 and D12 take you to a boat roundtrip on Danube – only at a cost of a single public transport ticket. Check out the exact timetable and stops [here](#).

3) Mol Bubi

In the spring of 2014, rentable city bikes appeared in Budapest as well, following the example of several European capitals. These bikes can be rented from identical-looking green repositories at most of the important nodes in the city, and can be stored at any of them after use.



Looking for more suggestions?

[What to do with 2, 3 or 5 days in Budapest](#)

[Top 10 things to do in Budapest](#)

Budapest is waiting for you!

