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Dear Exchange Student!

First and foremost: welcome to the Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE)! You've made a smart decision by choosing us. ELTE is the oldest university in Hungary, and its professors and students are selected from the best Hungary has to offer, so you are at a very good place.

Our University, one of the oldest in the country, was founded in 1635 in Nagyszombat (now Trnava, Slovakia) by Cardinal Péter Pázmány (1570-1637), Archbishop of Esztergom, along with the Faculty of Theology. A major step in the development of the University was the establishment of the Faculty of Law in 1667. With the founding of the Faculty of Medicine in 1769. The structure of the University became identical to that of similar European institutions, and in 1777 the University was relocated to the newly rebuilt Royal Palace in Buda. In 1921 the University changed its name to Péter Pázmány University, and since 1950 it has borne the name of its previous Rector and Professor, the inventor of the torsion balance, Loránd Eötvös. Now the University has eight faculties, and attracts the brightest scholars in the country to share their knowledge with the students. If you are further interested in the story of our University, please visit our homepage.

We know that setting up a whole new life in a different country is not easy. But do not worry we are here to help you. ELTE has various institutions to help exchange students. Among them are the International Students’ Advisory Service, the University Students’ Union’s Committee for International Relations, and also the Erasmus coordinators and other program-leaders on various faculties and departments. There are many people here to help you, so if you have any problems, just tell us, and we will do our best to solve them.

In the name of your guides:

Márton Ugródy
Eötvös Loránd University
University Students’ Union
Vice president for International Relations
Let me introduce some of these mentioned bodies:

The International Students’ Advisory Service (ISAS) is designated to give detailed answers to numerous enquiries regarding studies at the ELTE. This office usually takes care of general problems, such as enrolment and maintains an office in downtown where exchange students can ask their questions. The easiest way to reach them is via e-mail, the most well-known address is office@isas.elte.hu.

The Students’ Union’s Committee of International Relations takes care of exchange students during their stay. For this reason they are supervising a so-called mentor-system. You will find some information about this later on in this booklet. These organizations prepare some free-time programmes during the year, and also taking care of problems regarding your classes, your lecturers, and everything related to the University. We are here to ensure your rights, so if you feel you have been discriminated, or not given the same opportunities as the others, contact us.

Every faculty has its own Students’ Union, and every of them have somebody who is responsible for exchange students. Please contact them if you have any problem. You will find a comprehensive contact list at the end of this booklet.

The offices of these two organizations is located in the 5th District. The exact address is Gerlóczy utca 11 (not far from the Deák tér metro station).

Every faculty has its own Erasmus coordinators. They know what courses you can take, they can help at your registration, and they are experts in their fields. They have been doing this for years, and they are dedicated, so ask them for help, if you need it. They would happily help you. You can find your coordinator at your faculty, please ask them for opening hours.

One of the most important aids you can call on during your stay here is the mentor system.

As the story goes: many of our students who have been abroad with an Erasmus program and other exchange programs have told us, that they had helpers during their stay in the foreign country. They were called mentors, or buddies, or something to that effect. We have thought about it a lot, and have concluded that we should have something similar. The first step was taken by the Faculty of Law, and now we have introduced this opportunity to the entire University.
Our mentors are enthusiastic Hungarian students, who have volunteered to help exchange students. They are carefully selected after numerous interviews. Their job is to make your stay as easy and comfortable as possible. They can help you in finding a flat, opening a bank account or getting you a cell phone. The help of the mentors is for free, so if you want to have a mentor, just let us know. We believe that this is one opportunity everyone should grab. So if you feel like having a mentor, write an e-mail to the address: kulugy@ehok.elte.hu, and tell us which faculty you are going to attend. Going to attend because every faulty has its own mentors who know the place best.

We have also arranged some leisure time activities for you. For the detailed program of the semester please check the end of this booklet, or our homepage.

This is a brief summary of what we do. The information in this booklet should provide you with a good estimate of the resources that are available for you at our university as a foreign student. We hope that you take the time to get involved and ask us for any assistance that you require, because we would be more than glad to tend to your problems and queries.

We hope that the months that you spend here will be the time of your life. It is our job to make them as enjoyable as possible. Fasten your seatbelt, and let your journey through ELTE begin!
VISA

For a stay of less than 90 days during a six month period in Hungary, EU citizens or non-EU citizens do not need a visa, but if the stay exceeds the period of 90 days then one must apply for a residence permit at the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Bureau of Immigration and Citizenship-Regional Directorate. Please note that in the case of some countries the visa-free period only covers 30 days!

Citizens of the UK can stay in Hungary without a visa for six months.

Applications for visas must be submitted at the Hungarian Embassy in the home country. (The process of issuing a visa takes the maximum of 1 month and will be valid for the maximum of one year.

What kind of visa should you get?
TEACHERS or RESEARCHERS coming to Hungary through international co-operation agreements (e.g. Socrates/Erasmus, CEEPUS, EU6 Framework Programme, bilateral S&T agreements) need a D-2 visa, STUDENTS should get a D-5 visa.

In any of the cases we advise you to consult the following web pages or ask for information at the

Hungarian Consular Service
1027 Budapest, Nagy Imre tér 4.
phone: (+36 1) 458 1000 |
fax: (+36 1) 201 7932
iroda.konz@kum.hu
RESIDENCE PERMIT

Staying in Hungary longer than three months requires a residence permit. Application for a residence permit must be forwarded to the authorities in question at least 15 days prior to the end of the authorized stay in the country (citizens staying on a visa basis - 15 days before the expire of the visa; citizens staying without a visa - 15 days before the end of their 90-day stay).

The same rules apply to everyone: STUDENT, TEACHER, RESEARCHER, or TRAINEE.

There are two types of residence permits:

• valid for less than 12 months, or (the expiry date of the residence permit coincides with that of the work permit; students can obtain a residence permit for one year maximum after which they might apply for its extension.)

• valid for more than 12 months.

In the case of a work permit the expiry date of the residence permit will coincide with that of the work permit. In the case of STUDENTS, the residence permit can be issued each semester for a period of one year. After the expiry date of this period, students may apply for the extension of the residence permit provided that their status has not changed.
To apply for either kind of residence permit, or to extend an existing one, the following are needed:

- a visa (in case of non-EU citizens)
- a completed application form
- registration of residence (dormitory, hotel, motel, proof of rent or other)
- duty stamps (to a value of 1 500 HUF, can be purchased at post offices)
- a valid passport
- two passport photos
- an official medical certificate (issued by the competent county institute of the State Public Health and Medical Administration according to the Hungarian residence of the applicant)

In Budapest for the official medical certificate you need to go to the National Public Health and Medical Officers' Service - ÁNTSZ
1097 Budapest, Gyáli út 2–6. |
phone: (+36 1) 476 1100, (+36 1) 215 0930

The necessary forms are available at local offices of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Bureau of Immigration and Citizenship.

In all cases, the application for a resident permit should be forwarded to the regional foreigners policing authority competent at the future place of residence of the applicant in Hungary. The list of the Regional Directorates of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Bureau of Immigration and Citizenship can be found at: www.bmbah.hu/kihelyezett_szervek_ism.php
IMPORTANT

• STUDENTS, TEACHERS or RESEARCHERS coming to Hungary within the framework of international co-operation programs may benefit from the VIP client service of the Office of Immigration and Nationalities of the Interior - Regional Branch for Budapest and Pest County (located in Budapest on Budafoki út): they can apply for the above service on Wednesdays as well (usually on Wednesdays there are no consulting hours), in which case a previous appointment is needed.

• Application for residence permit of STUDENTS, TRAINEES and RESEARCHERS come under a more favourable category regarding the period of approval/obtaining the permit.
HEALTH CARE

VISITORS FROM THE EU and scholars on scholarship given by the Hungarian government have free healthcare in Hungary.

Get yourself a European Health Insurance Card E111 card (now valid for a year). You had to develop it in your home country. With that card you get free necessary medical care.

For further information follow the link given below:

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/healthcard/index_en.htm

If you have not made it, you can still have necessary medical care. In this case the Hungarian hospital will forward it to the Orszagos Egeszsegugyi Penztar (which is the organization taking care of social security), which will forward it to your country, where you can ask your money back providing E 126 paper.

Also as a full time student paying 30% of minimal wage to your local government you can get Hungarian health insurance and after 6 months Hungarian Health Care (TAj) Card.

Students from the countries of the former Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Romania, Angola, Iraq, Jordan, North Korea, Cuba, Kuwait, Mongolia, and CIS member states have the right to free emergency healthcare with showing their passports.
PHARMACIES (GYÓGYSZERTÁR)
Open untill 8pm. some open in the night.

Teréz Gyógyszertár 24/7
VI. 1067 Budapest Teréz krt. 41.
Tel: 311-4439

Déli Gyógyszertár 24/7
XII. 1123 Budapest Alkotás u. 1/b
Tel: 355-4691

Örs Vezér Gyógyszertár 24/7
XIV. 1144 Budapest Örs Vezér tér
Rendelőintézet
Tel: 221-3861, (1) 422-0382

Aranyhorgony Gyógyszertár 24/7
IV. ker. 1043 Budapest Pozsonyi út 19
Tel: (1) 379-3008

Mária Gyógyszertár
XIII. ker. 1139 Budapest Béke tér 11.
Tel: 320-8006

Note If you go to a pharmacy that is open in the evening, you usually have to go to a special window, sometimes ring the bell, and always pay extra 100-150 HUF.
SOME HOSPITALS

National Ambulance Surgical Institute
VII, 1081 Budapest Fiumei u. 17
Tel.: 299-77-00
www.obsi.hu

János Kórház
XII, 1125 Budapest, Diós árok 1-3
Tel.: 458-4500
www.janoskorhaz.hu/en/

Szt. László Kórház
IX 1097 Budapest Gyáli u 5*7
Tel.: 455-81-00
www.laszlokorhaz.hu

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

AMBULANCE 104
POLICE 107
FIRE DEPARTAMENT 105
or you can reach them at 112

STD Clinics, HIV tests

Anonym AIDS Information Service (AATSZ)
XI Budapest, 1113 Karolina út 35/b., Tel.: 466-9283
Further Information: www.anonimaids.hu, e-mail: segitseg@anonimaids.hu
Time of tests: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 5pm-8pm, Tuesday, Friday: 9-12am

National Dermitology and Venerial Disease Institute
Bp. VIII. Mária u. 41.
Tel.: 266-0465, 338-2419
Free of charge and anonym test
Monday to Friday: 8-12am

Szent Sebestyén ‘97 Ltd.
Budapest, VI., Podmaniczky u. 27. fsz. 10.
Tel.: 302-7572
Anonym test for gay lesbian and bisexual oriented people
Wednesday: 18-21h
university
If you are studying as an exchange student within the ELTE framework, you have to register yourself with the coordinator of the given program. Unfortunately the regular offices of the University cannot help you (sometimes they do not even speak a foreign language). So always ask your program coordinator or the coordinator of the faculty about the details. If you have to deal with the regular Administration Office of your faculty, ask your mentor for help (his/her skills in the Hungarian language will come in handy during your adventures there).

Generally we can say that you are here as a guest student for a semester or two. Thus, your administration will be done separately from the Hungarian students.

Erasmus students are asked to send some information in advance. That is very important, because we need it for setting up your profile in the online administration system. You will not have to deal with that ever again, but for the people in the administration you only exist if you have such a profile. It is also needed for your student ID. So to make this process as easy as possible, please send us all the necessary information on time. You may find many strange details required (for example your mother’s name), but we use that over here, so do not be surprised. You might be asked to tell us your address in Hungary. Do not worry about that, we know you will be getting a flat only when you arrive. If you must enter something into that
space, choose one of our dormitories. If later you are questioned about it, simply say that you did not get space. The courses you take as an Erasmus student are registered in your Transcript of Records. Unfortunately there is no electronic system for that, so we still use the oldschool paper system. You have to take your Transcript to your classes, and have the signature of the professor. Also when you are taking your exams, bring that paper along with you. We are working on the online administration, and it should be ready in the near future.

If you are here with another program, you may have to use the ETR (that is the Hungarian abbreviation of the University’s online administration system). It is not very user-friendly, and even Hungarian students have problems with it. You will also notice that besides the confusion with the menu, it is all in Hungarian. So if you need to use it, ask for help. Your mentor will happily give you a hand with that.

To get your ID and password for the ETR, you have to go to the Quaestura office. You also have to bring some ID (eg. your passport), and after identification, you will get your ID and password. If you got them, go to the homepage http://etr.elte.hu and follow the on-screen instructions. We strongly advise you that when you are trying to log on the first time, have a Hungarian speaker near you.

**Contacts of the faculty Erasmus coordinators:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty</th>
<th>Name of the coordinator</th>
<th>e-mail address</th>
<th>Tel.:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>Piroska Pinizsi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pinizspiros@ajk.elte.hu">pinizspiros@ajk.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>411 6500/4692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities</td>
<td>Sándor Balaci</td>
<td><a href="mailto:balaci@ludens.elte.hu">balaci@ludens.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>411 6500/5493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education</td>
<td>Márta Kedl</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kedl@barczi.elte.hu">kedl@barczi.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>411 6500/5503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informatics</td>
<td>Bálint Fügi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ik-tnkcs@map.elte.hu">ik-tnkcs@map.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>411 6500/8199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education and Psychology</td>
<td>Zsuzsanna Csizmadia</td>
<td><a href="mailto:csizmadia.zsuzsanna@ppk.elte.hu">csizmadia.zsuzsanna@ppk.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>411 6500/3830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
<td>Julianna Győrke</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gyorkejul@ludens.elte.hu">gyorkejul@ludens.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>411 6500/6779</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary and Nursery</td>
<td>Andrea Seres</td>
<td><a href="mailto:seresa@mars.tofk.elte.hu">seresa@mars.tofk.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>411 6500/6911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers’ Training</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>Ildikó Kömyei</td>
<td><a href="mailto:csibike@ludens.elte.hu">csibike@ludens.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>411 6500/6095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Erasmus and CEEPUS Coordinator</td>
<td>Dr. Mózes Székely PhD</td>
<td><a href="mailto:erasmus@rekthiv.elte.hu">erasmus@rekthiv.elte.hu</a></td>
<td>485 6500/5246</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erasmus and CEEPUS Program Coordinator</td>
<td>Ágnes Székely</td>
<td></td>
<td>411 6500/2170</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Once you are registered in ETR (University’s administrative software), you need to go to Quaestura Central Office to get your Student ID. Remember first you have to enrol to the Faculty, than you are eligible for the Student ID.

The regular Student ID looks like this, with validating stickers on the back side.

You need to have the following stuff:
1. Documents (your passport and things like that),
2. Two pictures of yourself, - one for the temporary
Student ID (valid for 60 days); one for regular Student ID (valid for a term) 3,600 HUF for the temporary Student ID and 1,500 HUF for the regular Student ID (so total 2100 HUF)

The Procedure:
1. After you got registered on your faculty. Go to the Quaestura office, ask for a check for your temporary Student ID (valid for 60 days) – if you stay longer than three months you will need a regular Student ID so ask for a check for 1,500 HUF as well.
2. Then, fill out the forms. You will get your temporary Student ID immediately, and the form for the regular ID will go to the press. You will receive this student ID within a month.
3. Then go to the nearest post office – In front of the National Museum, (Múzeum krt 31-33.), and pay the checks. Keep the check voucher later on you may need to present it.

If you are staying for more than a term at ELTE, you will have to enroll for the second term as well as get yourself a holographic sticker at the Quaestura office. You can also validate your ID at the respective faculties (usually the Students’ Union of the respective faculties organizes this process), but you can also find the locations on the ETR. Please note that the validation is usually after a month from the first day.

Instead of being overwhelmed with all this, consider yourself lucky, because the Quaestura office is next door to us, so you will not get lost on the way. If they find you in the online administration system, they will give you an ID.

If you have a Student ID, your life becomes much cheaper. First and foremost you can get a students’ monthly pass at the BKV, which is way cheaper than the ordinary pass. You can also get a discount of 67.5% when travelling in
the country with train or bus. Numerous museums, exhibitions and cafés accept the Student ID, and you can also get some further discounts at restaurants and bookstores etc. It also reduces the price you have to pay when you go to the library or to certain swimming pools. At some places you can even pay with it! It is absolutely worth your time to get this little card, so do it!

**Questura Office**

V. district  
Gerlóczy street 11.  
Tel.: 381-23-53

Useful link: www.diakigazolvany.hu/english.php – the Hungarian major link about Student ID
FOREIGN STUDENTS WHO come to ELTE for one semester or a full academic year obviously need to find a place to stay. There are different options to solve this problem, we would like to give you some help to make the best decision.
When you arrive to Budapest you need to start thinking about where you would like to stay for the rest of your term. Initially you might need to find a hostel. Please check this website for hostels: www.hosteleurope.com where you can choose from a great range of different hostels.

The most popular option is **renting and sharing** a flat with other foreign students. You can find real estate agencies specialized for people who don’t speak Hungarian but if you have a Hungarian helper you could hunt for your dream flat for a reasonable rent. You have to watch out for the location because Budapest is just like any other big city, some parts of it are safer and nicer than others. The advantage a central location is its connection to the transport system during the day and night; the disadvantage is the well-known polluted air. Normally 2 to 4 students can share a flat, depending on the size. When you check a flat and talk to the landlord you will hear that you have to pay the rent and the overhead monthly. Usually it is required to be paid a month in advance. Some landlords set the amount of the rent and the actual overhead together, so you pay the stated price every month.

We cannot stress the importance of being very careful when choosing your housing, so that you can avoid future inconveniences.

The other option is to move to a dormitory. There are some well-known dormitories at the ELTE (and also some feared ones), and there are also some quiet and friendly places. There are some too, that can’t be heard about, because of their calm life.

There are some people, who are afraid of the dormitories. For the simple reason that it might be a challenge to live, eat and study among unknown people. But after a while, you get used to it, and then your time here turns into a constant party. You meet the others, get know the “core” of the groups. After a while, you will realize that you get all the information about university life faster, as well as some insights about your semester. You can also get some notes and books more easily in these places. You do not have to travel far to be at a good party, and you will not have to wait hours for the night service of the Budapest Transport Limited. You just simply go to your room, and to bed, if you are tired.
The 3 main dormitories, where you will get a place, if you apply for one:

The Kőrösi Csoma Sándor Dormitory

**Capacity:** 1293 person  
**Location:** 1118 Budapest, Dayka Gábor u. 4.  
**Homepage:** [www.csoma.elte.hu](http://www.csoma.elte.hu)  
**Transit links:** bus no. 139 from the Southern Railway Station, buses no. 40, 40E, 53, 140E, 153 from Móricz Zsigmond Square. Take off at the Dayka Gábor utca stop.  
**Prices:** approx. 20,000 HUF per month for a regular room (the two roommates are included). If you want to stay in the guest room, the price will be 26,000 HUF per month (in this case you’ll have two roommates and a shower).
Dormitory on Nándorfejérvári út
Capacity: 130 person
Location: 1117 Budapest, Nándorfejérvári út 13.
Homepage: www.nfk.elte.hu
Transit links: trams no. 41, 47, 18, 118 from Móricz Zsigmond Square, buses no. 14, 114 from Kosztolányi Dezső tér and bus no. 103 from Etele tér.
Prices: approx. 20,000 HUF per month for a regular room (with two roommates). If you want to have a place in the guest rooms (single rooms with shower) you’ll have to pay 32,000 HUF per month

Dormitory on Ajtósi Dürer Sor
Capacity: 244 person
Location: 1146 Budapest, Ajtósi Dürer sor 23.
Homepage: www.adk.elte.hu
Transit links: bus no. 7 from the city center (Stefánia út stop), tram no. 1 (Ajtósi Dürer sor stop), trolley no. 72, 74, 75.
Prices: approx. 20,000 HUF per month for a regular room (with one roommate) or approx. 26,000 HUF per month for a guest room (with one roommate and a sink).
APPLICATION

If you want to apply for a place in one of the dormitories, please contact Prof. Tibor Seifert, the director-general of the dormitories. The simplest way to do this is to send an e-mail to the address seifert@adk.elte.hu. He will let you know further details, and will inform you, what kind of papers you have to fill.

There is no deadline for applying to the dormitories, but the places get filled on a first come first serve basis. So if you want to secure a place for yourself, apply early, usually one or two months before your arrival.

The prices are different in the different dormitories. Some of the dormitories are not in the central area and the condition of the buildings are not always satisfying. But the student life there is more intense and the opportunity of making friends with Hungarians is much greater than renting a flat.

I cannot stress enough the help of our mentors, who would be more than happy to do their best with searching for the best solution for your housing.
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES OF EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY
1053 Budapest, Ferenciek tere 6.

The University Library of Eötvös Loránd University is one of the oldest and even now recently active public library in Hungary. The genesis of the University’s library is traceable to a Jesuit college's library which was founded in 1561. The University was founded by Pázmány Péter, the Primate of Hungary in 1635, in Nagyszombat (now Trnava, Slovakia.) The university and the library - with more than 15 000 volumes - moved to Buda in 1777, and in 1784 to Pest.

From the beginning the University Library has been the national scientific library for philosophy, history of the Middle Ages and partly that of the Modern Age, and history of religion and church history. Nowadays we have more than 16 000 registered visitors: mostly professors, lecturers, researchers and students and - it is a great pleasure for us - the number of virtual users are increasing from day to day.

Services

The Library would like the Electronic Information Service to be a gateway to the world of virtual over and above the traditional library services, such as
lending, interlibrary loan, copying and verification of bibliographical data. During the last few years we have developed our reference and information services based on modern technical tools, information, including multi-level linking to databases, e-text archives, online copies of printed documents, electronic-only materials, CD-ROMs. The University Library is a member of the "Hungarian Online Librarian" virtual service, which was launched in September 1999. This is an online reference service of Hungarian librarians; its purpose is to enable reference librarians to help information seekers through the internet. All the Hungarian university libraries provide access to hundreds of scientific periodicals, both in printed and electronic form which you can find only in these institutions in Hungary.

**Reading and Books**

There are plenty books in Budapest – in the homes, in the well developed library system. The Hungarian language, the survival of which – with a little exaggeration - had a hairbreadth escape in the shadow of the German language, is still very important for the people of Budapest. Apart from learning foreign languages, what is a change for the better.

In 21st Century Budapest going to libraries has become fashionable again – take the great success of the renewed Central Ervin Szabó Library. The old book street along Museum Boulevard reached its final size around in 2000. Here the friends of the books can make a round-trip in every book-stores from Kálvin Square to Astoria, especially on Saturdays. In the second-hand book-market plenty of treasures can be found in German language. But English language rarities are also here, however a more they are a more common find at book auctions. When somebody wants to buy a book late night, this is also possible nowadays: the five story Alexandra book-shop (named after the daughter of the owner) is open till midnight at Nyugati Square.
Note: Every Faculty of the University has its own library, in addition most of the Institutions and Catedras has their own libraries as well. Please contact your cathedra which library fits you the most.

**Faculty Libraries:**
Law - find books through www.konyvtar.elte.hu
Humanities - http://www.btk.elte.hu/olvaso/
Search: http://corvina.barczi.hu
Informatics - in library of Natural Sciences
Elementary and Nursery School Teacher’s Training -
http://www.tofk.elte.hu/konyvtar/ind.html
Social Sciences - http://www.tatk.elte.hu/frames/frame310/fram3101.htm
Natural Sciences - http://ttklib.elte.hu

University Library:
www.konyvtar.elte.hu
SIX INTERESTING AND IMPORTANT LIBRARIES

NATIONAL SZÉCHÉNYI LIBRARY – www.oszk.hu
It’s located in the rear wing of the Royal Palace, facing toward Buda. It’s a national library, the biggest collection including some surviving books of Mathias, the legendary king of the renaissance (their name is “Corvina”, as the ensign of the king was the raven, which is called corvus in Latin).

LIBRARY OF THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES – www.mtak.hu
(V., I., Arany János utca) It’s on the side of the Danube, behind the building of the Academy of Sciences. Many scholars and students frequent this library and its wonderful view on Buda.

LIBRARY OF THE PARLIAMENT – www.ogyk.hu
(V., I-3., Kossuth tér) All the kids and wonder of the neo-Gothic palace can be found in this part, which looks several hundred years old. It has a very pleasant environment, which was originally meant for the Members of the Parliament.
CENTRAL ERVIN SZABÓ LIBRARY – www.fszek.hu
(VIII., I., Szabó Ervin tér, entrance from Reviczky utca) It’s located in a magnifi-
cent neo-Baroque palace, completed in 1889, as well as in a new wing: -
Presently, one of the most interesting library interiors of Europe. The café is to
be found in the former stables.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY OF EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY
– www.konyvtar.elte.hu
(V., 6., Ferenciek tere.) It’s in the heart of the city in a nicely maintained build-
ing, far from noise of the world. It’s mainly frequented by students and schol-
ars. There is a motto in Latin on the fore-front of the building: „Artibus —
Litteris — Vitae”: ‘For the Art, Literature, Life’ And for serious tourists, too!

NATIONAL FOREIGN LANGUAGE LIBRARY – www.oik.hu
(V., 11., Molnár utca) Originnaly built for Young Men’s Christian Association
(YMCA) a Russian language library was opened in 1956 under the name of
“Gorki Library”, which later started to collect other foreign language pieces, as
well. Many people in Budapest still calls it “Gorki” even today. It has got a very
pleasant atmosphere with a rich selection of journals.
Since there are more than 32,000 student in ELTE, there is a really intense student community life at our university. The fact that our 8 different faculties reflect a diverse student body with many fields of interest. So there is a great opportunity to find friends with the same interest.

There are different events organised by the student governments of the faculties during the semesters. The first ball of the autumn semester is the freshmen ball. People dress up and have a lot of fun with their own faculty. There are several other parties of the faculties, such as the Halloween, Santa Claus, Christmas and carnival parties. Sometimes they are on boats, pubs or in the faculty building itself. There are also several international student parties organised by the international advisory offices of different universities. So if you were worried about not having a social schedule, now you should start to worry about exactly the opposite.

Different faculties have different clubs. For example, if you are interested in movies or literature, we make you sure that you find the club that suits you. There are also language clubs which consist of students who all love a particular culture or language. So you would probably find an existing club of people who love your country and would be very pleased to meet you. If one such club does not exist there are endless possibilities to start up your own club with which we would help you. Sometimes
these clubs are hard to find so please walk around campus with your eyes open and also do check the International Advisory Service website. There we have an open forum and useful information will be posted.

If you enjoy sports there are numerous activities from which you can choose. As a foreign student it is not necessary to go through the normal process to participate. Depending on the sport it is necessary to contact the appropriate sport director of the faculty. This contact can be attained from the student government. The possibilities are endless, such as: football, basketball, tennis, volley ball, hand ball, swimming etc.
COMING TO THE CAPITAL of Hungary to study is a great challenge yet we can assure you that it is also a lot of fun. The whole city is full of history, diversity, customs, colors, noises, voices, young and old people, and loads of parties. Every little part of Budapest is alive, moving and you can always find what you are looking for. In the daytime you can go sightseeing, shopping, do sports, walk in parks, go to the cinema, to museums, libraries, or just chill in cool cafes with unique atmospheres and many other exciting things that you can just imagine.

In the night life never stops. Even if you have a really specific preference of music or like the popular main stream music, you can be sure that you will find the perfect club that would match your expectations.

Let us help you through the jungle of Budapest by day and by night so that you can have the most fabulous time of your life in this city: The Queen of the Danube.

As a student you might need to know the restaurants where you can have good food but are affordable or the ones that you can have the most amazing food for higher price not even mentioning the cafés where you can find a cool atmosphere and chill a bit. We try to put in order the places we can recommend you in every category.
Being on a student budget it is important to consider the best places to get good quality food for cheap. That is where we come into the picture. We know the hidden places as well as the most popular ones from first hand, from people just like you. So here they go, all the places we heard about from foreign students. We figured if they liked them you would too!!

**Nagyipalacsintázója (Grandma’s Pancakes):** Pancakes, or Palacsinta (pron. Pa-la-chin-ta), play an important role in Hungarian cuisine and they are accompanied by more than just maple syrup or lemon juice. With a view of the parliament from the opposite river bank, Budapest’s non-stop pancake producing granny offers an adventurous selection of fillings, including spinach, poppy seed, chestnut, cottage cheese and Milky Way. Open 24 hours.

**Főzelék** is a really Hungarian dish, made of different kinds of vegetables. They are thicker than soups but not quite normal side dishes. It is a must to try them, because they are easy to find in the city and probably the cheapest lunch you can get.

2 Főzelék places:

**Főzelék Faló:** Four kinds of főzelék - and little else - are found at this tiny self-service place. Cramped and crowded - you might have to fight for a barstool and seat at the Formica tables, even at non-peak hours. But if you can get in the door, it’s good for a quick lunch. (200-600 HUF), VI. Nagymező u. 18.
**Frici Papa Kifőzdéje** is unusually large for this kind of eatery. Check out the mural on the wall - a depiction of a Király utca that never was. Limited selection of mains. Kitchen closes at 20:00. (400 - 600 HUF), VII. Király u. 55.

You can also have a good lunch on the first floor of the **Great Market Hall** at Vámház krt 1. Traditional hungarian dines are waiting for you there. Get hungarian sausage, a Lángos - fried pasta, and dont forget to have a bit of red wine.

**Bombay Express** is an Indian fast-food restaurant in downtown. The prices are affordable and the portions are pretty big. Real Indian chefs cook the food fresh every day. Lunchtime it is really crowded but in the evening there is a discount saying eat as much as you can for 1200HUF. VI. Andrássy út, 44.

There is no doubt that Chinese snack bars, Gyros and Falafel places are the most popular eating out restaurants among students in Budapest. There are 2 explanations for this fact. First one is that they serve you a huge portion of food
for cheap and the second one is that they are all over the city. They are like Mc'Donalds in the US: you can find one on every corner.

Cafés and pubs of Budapest are really various and we let you know which ones are the most popular and the best in this city.

**Szimpla** and its belonging buildings around the city are one of the most popular meeting point. You can find Szimpla café in VII. dist. Kertész Str. 48. Its special atmosphere is catchy and their coffee is excellent. Sometimes they have jazz and folk concerts in the basement room. At Szimpla Kert (VII. dist. Kazinczy Str. 14.) you can find an open air cinema, a nice tea-garden, good music and cool people.

**West Balkan** is right behind the Corvin cinema which is really a nice and chill place to hang out in after a movie with your friends. They also have an open-air garden area which is open between May and October. There is also a basement area where they have parties on various days. Go there for a coffee in day-time and get a beer at night.
Szoda is an other coffee shop which becomes a party place at night. They have fooseball tables in the basement so everyone can find their amusement for the night those who love dancing and even those who just hang out with people who dance a lot.

Potkulcs is a really outstanding place where you can have some special experiences of different kind of music while having your quiet pint. Sometimes they have live concerts but there is not enough place to dance so this way you can enjoy the music itself. It is a bit hard to find the place, it is like a hidden garden, but if you can it is totally worth it. Bp. VI Csengery u. 65/b – yard.

Karma is one cafe by Oktogon on the busy square of Liszt Ferenc. That street is full of shiny new cafes, restaurants and pubs. When it is not too cold outside, the square is packed with people, mainly with foreigners. Karma is one of these posh, exclusive restaurant-cafes but its atmosphere is totally worth going in it for a coffee.

Shiraz is on the other busy street of Pest, Raday street by Kalvin square. It is a Persian restaurant-café where you can see talented belly dancers while smoking a hooka or drinking a special Persian tee.

Teazo a Voros Oroszlanhoz is the ultimate and most famous tee shop with its numerous kind of tees. It is a really chill place to go to although their prices are a bit high you have to try it if you are a real tea lover.

The places that we collected here for you are just a little taste. There are so many other cafes, pubs and tea houses which became popular meeting points for young people. So visit some of these places and explore your own favorite ones.
Many guide books on Budapest give the impression that, before the political changes of 1989, there was little in the way of nightlife. Although it's fair to say that back then most venues (especially those in university halls) were like a time warp back to the days of cheesy 70s disco, glitter balls and alarmingly wide trousers. The locals always found places to party until the early hours.

Of the more 'sophisticated' western style clubs which have sprung up since then, many come with burly bouncers, expensive beer and journeymen DJs. That said, it's still easy to find a lively salsa bar or enjoy the laid back atmosphere of a Budapest jazz club.

Our listing below is just a taste of the going out places of Budapest, but might be useful to know where you can find young people to party with.

**A38 Ship (A38 Hajo)**

We're fine with party boats just so long as they stayed moored all night (essential after a few shots of Unicum). Luckily, the A38 does just that, being an old stone-carrying ship in its previous incarnation. Having been dragged all the way from the Ukraine, its new owners set about giving it a full refit before opening for business in 2003. The A-38 attracts big name DJs from across Europe, with the fun and games spread over three floors (incorporating a restaurant, roof terrace, lounge and club). Those in the know, rate it highly.

XII. Pázmány Péter sétány (at the Buda side of Petőfi Bridge), Tel: 464 3940, Website: www.a38.hu, Open: 11am-midnight Mon-Sat. When club nights are advertised in advance 4pm-4am.
Cha-Cha-Cha Underground Café
Looking like a set from Carlito's Way, the retro chic of Cha-Cha-Cha makes it a great venue for both daytime drinks and a good boogie at night. Sure, it’s located in a grotty subway just across from Kálvin tér metro, but don’t let that stop you from checking out this likeable haunt on a party night.
IX. (located in Kálvin tér metro station), Tel: 215-0545,
Website: www.chachacha.hu,
Metro: M3 Kálvin tér

Süss Fel Nap
Laid back and wholly unpretentious, Süss Fel Nap is the sort of club where you can simply be yourself, hang out with friends and have a great time. The atmosphere is infectiously cheerful, drinks are cheap, and grooves don’t let up before closing time. Recommended.
V. Honvéd utca 40, Tel: 302 3799, Website: www.sussfelnap.hu
Open: 5pm-3am daily, Metro: M3 Nyugati pu, Tram 4, 6

Kultiplex
You should be punk (or drunk) enough to enjoy Kultiplex. It is very graffitied and rastafaried and conveys local spirit very well. Movies, concerts, parties, drinks, open air terrace all the year round.
IX. Kinizsi u. 28 Open: 24 hours

Morrison’s Music Pub
Do you enjoy karaoke or prefer dancing? Now this is the place where you do not have to chose from these two activities. The 2 different rooms provide everything you could wish for.
Some Museums

**Museum of Contemporary Arts - Ludwig Museum (Palace of Arts):** Here on display are the modern exhibits of the art-collecting husband and wife Peter and Irene Ludwig, originally from Cologne. The museum concentrates on the last fifty years of modern art in general, and the last ten years of modern Hungarian art in particular.

**Hungarian National Gallery:**

(I. Dísz tér 17, Budavári Palota, Buildings B, C and D): This has over 100,000 items reflecting Hungarian history from the Magyar Conquest to the present day. Permanent exhibitions: Mediæval and Renaissance Stonework, Gothic Wooden Statues.
and Panel Paintings, Late Gothic Winged Altarpieces, Renaissance and Baroque Art, the Habsburg Crypt, Nineteenth Century Hungarian Art and Sculpture, and Twentieth Century Hungarian Art and Sculpture.

Hungarian National Museum:

(VIII. Múzeum krt. 14-16): Now responsible for the safe keeping of over a million objects, the National Museum traces its own history back to 1802 when it was founded with the medal, book and manuscript collection belonging to Count Ferenc Széchenyi. In 1846 it moved into the fine neo-Classical building designed by Mihály Pollack where it has been ever since.

Permanent exhibitions: Hungarian History from the Founding of the State until 1990, Lapidarium – Roman Stonework, and Coronation Jewels and Robes.

Nagytétény Castle Museum:

(XXII. Kastélypark u. 9-11): One of the most splendid baroque palaces in all Hungary is home to the furniture collection belonging to the Museum of Applied Arts. The European Furniture Art Exhibition – 15th to the 19th Century displays over three hundred items.

Ethnographical Museum:

(V. Kossuth tér 12): One of the largest museums dedicated to ethnography in the whole of Europe contains 139,000 items of Hungarian origin as well as a further 53,000 items of international interest. Housed in a building of interest in itself – formerly belonging to the Royal Court, opposite the Parliament, and displaying elements of Renaissance, baroque and Classical architecture. Permanent exhibitions: The Traditional Culture of the Magyar People, and From Primitive Society To Civilization.
Museum of Applied Arts:
(IX. Üllői út 33-37): Housed in one of the most magnificent art nouveau bottles, Italian majolica, Zsolnay ceramics, French furniture, and pieces of Augsburg gold ware from the baroque period.

Museum of Fine Arts:
(XIV. Hősök tere): Hungary’s premier gallery of non-Hungarian works of art from early times right up to the present day is on display in a stately neo-Classical gallery at Heroes’ Square. The gallery began with a collection donated by Archbishop Pyrker of Eger and an extensive art collection purchased by the State in the 1870’s from the Esterházy family. Today, as well as Egyptian, Roman and Greek exhibits there is a particularly fine collection of Italian art, affording a comprehensive survey of the various schools of painting from the twelfth to the eighteenth centuries. The Spanish collection includes no fewer than seven masterpieces by El Greco.
Twelve significant open-air events

The climate of Budapest is not really suitable for open-air events from October till March. This time the events are organized indoors, with the exceptions of the Christmas Fair at Vörösmarty Square, and the celebration of New Year’s Eve, when the inhabitants of Budapest, excepting only a few, rush to the streets and blow paper trumpets and hoot wearing masks. Traditionally it is allowed this time that people may cross the traffic on the ground at the corner of the Grand Boulevard and Rákóczi Street, while it is strictly forbidden all through the year.

Festival Week of Books — first weekend in June. The Week of Books, the celebration of the new Hungarian literature was organized in almost every year since 1927 – every decent publishing house erects a stall, in the citycenter. During the event from Monday till Thursday the authors dedicate their new books, there are interviews and performances on a stage. For a foreigner it is worth to visit, as foreign publishing houses are always present. The Week of Books are going on in other parts of the city: at Vörösmarty Square, at Liszt Ferenc Square, in Ráday Street and elsewhere, as well.
Bridge Festival – It was organized first time on the 150th anniversary of the Chain Bridge in 1999. The bridge was occupied by the pedestrians all day, showpeople, orchestras, street-vendors entertained the people of Budapest at both feet of the bridge.

Summer on the Chain Bridge – The series of events are held for seven weekends on the closed Chain Bridge with cultural, entertainment programs and fun-fairs.

’Connection’ Concert — last Sunday in June. A traditional, free of charge major pop concert sponsored by the largest Hungarian telecom company at the Ceremonial Square by the City Park. The main guest is always a first class world star.

„Budapesti Búcsú Festival” — last weekend in June. The Hungarian name of this festival has two meanings, it cannot be translated. On the one hand, it means the carnivals held around churches on the name day of catholic saints, while it also means ‘farewell’ on the other hand, as the very first of this kind of festivals was organized for joy by the Capital that even the last occupying Russian soldier had left Hungary in 1991. There are concerts, picture shows at several points of the city.

Island Festival — first or second week in August. The largest annually held open-air festival of the word with several hundreds of programs on the Óbuda Island in North Budapest. A part of the several ten thousand visitor live in tents on the island. Many supporting programmes: literature, theatre, gays and lesbians, human rights, green movements etc. Budapest completely
transforms during this week, the number of young tourist with back-pack is multiplied.

**Festival of the Constitution** — August 19-20. Many century old tradition to celebrate the end of the Summer (originally it was the celebration of ‘new bread’). Parade on the Danube, concerts on water, different monumental events, the peak of which is the firework launched from top of the Gellért Hill and from the Danube in the evening of August 20. The ‘Celebration of Crafts’ program is also held during this weekend in the Royal Palace District, where craftsmen arrive from all over the country, and present their skills on site. (From tallow-chandler to blacksmith.)

**Budapest Parade** — end of August. It is one station of the great European carnival tour. Procession of trucks from the City Centre to the City Park. The special Budapest flavour is the bewilderment of the elders.
**International Wine and Champaign Festival** — second weekend in September. Traditional festival held in the Royal Palace District, is not only the celebration of more than 150 wines and champagnes, but a celebration of gastronomy, too. Everything can be tasted on site. Eating, music, dance, carnival. Good programme for children, too.

**Jewish Festival** — at the time of the Jewish New Year. Classic and word music events, book programmes near to the Great Synagogue, only partially open-air.

**Budapest Marathon** — first Sunday in October. The most recognized one among the many city runs. The city is filled up with healthy, athletic men and women, who travel to Budapest especially for this. The inhabitants are divided into three groups this time: to fans, to fuming ones in traffic jams, and to those who escape from here.
New Year’s Eve— December 31/January 1. One upon a time the people watched only one TV channel and on the following workday they exchanged their opinions, how lousy cabaret it was. Nowadays we have plenty of channels – and the people are rather leaving their homes. They often come together with their friends on the following day, and according to the good Hungarian tradition they eat lentil soup. Of course they hardly drink this time, as they are kept busy to remember what sort of pledge they took early in the morning.

There is a huge range of cultural entertainment to choose from in Budapest. There are theatrical performances and concerts of classical and light music every day, with both Hungarian artists and guests from all over the world.

The Budapest Spring Festival and the Budapest Autumn Festival are two major international music, theatre, film and art festivals. Grand opera and ballet are staged at both the Opera House and the Erkel Theatre, whereas the Operetta Theatre is the place to see and hear the operettas and musicals of Lehár, Kálmán and Ábrahám. “The Phantom of the Opera” is on all the year round at the Madách Theatre, and foreign language productions, mostly English, are put on at the Merlin Theatre. Vibrant folk music and dancing shows are regularly held at the Buda Vigadó and Duna Palota Theatres.
In Budapest cinemas foreign language films are subtitled (feliratos in Hungarian), so tourists can enjoy the latest blockbusters with the original soundtrack. Films arrive in Budapest cinemas early sometimes before Western European cities. Some very popular films are dubbed (szinkronizált) so it’s always good to check in Exit or in Pesti Est free magazines whether the film you want watch is subtitled before you buy the ticket.

A handful of modern multiplexes with Dolby sound system and wild screens attract Hollywood movie lovers. Budapest caters for art film fans too with a good variety of art cinemas.

Art Cinemas in Budapest
Budapest has some lovely art cinemas with colourful art movie offer. Hungarian film production has started to resurrect in recent years and more and more young directors produce films that fill up the movie theatres. The most significant
filmfestival Magyar Filmszemle introduces the new films every February.

**Bem Mozi**
Address: Margit krt. 5/b., II. district trams 4-6 Margit utca stop
Tel: 316 8708

**Cirkó-Gejzír**
Address: Balassi Bálint út 15-17., V. district trams 4-6 Margaret Bridge, tram 2 Jászai Mari tér terminus
Tel: 269-0904

**Európa Mozi**
Address: Rákóczi út 82. VII. district, bus 7 Berzseny utca stop
Tel: 322-5419

**Hunnia**
Address: Erzsébet krt. 26., VII. district, trams 4-6 Wesselényi utca stop
Tel: 321-7580

**Kultiplex**
Address: Kinizsi utca 8. IX. district, M3 metro Ferenc körút station
Tel: 476-0116

**Művész Mozi**
Address: Teréz krt. 30., VI. district, trams 4-6 Király utca stop
Tel: 332-6726

**Örökmozugó**
Address: Erzsébet krt. 39., VII. district trams 4-6 Wesselényi utca stop
Tel: 342-2167

**Puskin**
Address: Kossuth Lajos utca 18., V. district M2 metro Astoria station
Tel: 429-60-80

**Szimpla Kert Cinema** The only open-air cinema in Budapest operating in winter. A cool cult place with an underground bar.
Address: Kazinczy utca 17. VII. district
Tel: (+36) (20) 248 1968

**Toldi**
Address: Bajcsi-Zsilinszky út 36-38., V. district M3 metro Arany János utca station
Tel: 472-039

**Vörösmarty Mozi**
Address: Üllői út 4., VIII. district M3 metro Kálvin tér station
Tel: 317-4542

**Lil dictionary to cinema program:**

- f - half, f9 - half past 8
- n - quarter, n9 - quarter past 8
- h - three quarters, h9 - quarter to 9
- felir. - feliratos - subtitled
- szink. - szinkronizált - dubbed
- an - angol - english
- fr. - francia - french
- ném. - német - german
- magy. - magyar - hungarian
- lengy. - lengyel - polish
Budapest Shopping offers plenty of options to find good bargains. The number of shops in Budapest has heavily increased since the 90-ies, big shopping malls, new fashion shops appeared on every corner of the city.

Budapest Shopping-Opening Hours
Foodstores are open from 6.00 or 7.00 to 18.00, 19.00, Monday to Friday, on Saturdays from 6.00 or 7.00 to 13.00. Other Budapest shops are open Monday to Friday from 10.00 to 18.00, on Saturdays from 10.00 to 13.00. The large supermarkets have longer opening hours and are open on Sunday. Some of them, like Tesco are open 24 hours. In the town centre, mainly in Pest, you will find several non-stop, 24-hour shops. They sell cigarettes, alcohol, soft drinks and snacks, and other foodstuffs, usually at a higher price. All shops are closed on public holidays.
Budapest Shopping—How to Pay
Large shops accept credit cards, especially in the touristy part of the town. In small shops and markets you have to pay in cash, so make sure you have enough Hungarian forints in your purse.

Budapest Shopping—What and Where to Buy
You'll find fashionable designer products, as well as folklore and art products in the most popular shopping areas of Budapest. They are in the touristy parts of the town so the shops here are rather expensive. If you have less money to spend on gifts head for shops along Nagykörút (Great Boulevard) or the Budapest Markets.

If you love modern, flashy shops Budapest Shopping Malls are for you. You can buy all sorts of things from clothes to food products. The good thing is, that if you get tired or hungry, there are a couple of cafés and fast food restaurants to sit in.

If you are not big fan of shopping malls, because they are crazy and full of people then the shops of Váci street and the ones on the Great Boulevard are the ones that you are looking for.

The best Budapest Antique Shops are in Falk Miksa Street.

Budapest Flea Markets are excellent places to find good bargains.
**Grocery shopping:**

If you are looking to do a one stop shop from socks to eggplant, then a supermarket is your best bet. They are HUGE, CHEAP, and GLORIOUS, but come at a distance. You will need a car or some excellent BKV navigation to make it there and back. These stores are Cora, Tesco, Auschan, Metroek located on Budaörs.

Then there are your average sized grocery stores located in more user-friendly locations. Shop around because some tend to be more expensive than others.

Smatch, Match, Kaiser $$$ - expensive
Interspar, Plusz $$
CBA, GROBY, Penny Market $ - cheap

Even more conveniently, there are many small corner shops that also carry groceries. They are a bit more expensive and don’t have quite the selection, but are always a comfy distance on those rainy days. They are called ABC and Kisbolt. Some are open 24-hours and are known as “éjjel-nappali” or “non-stops”. Other small shops to know include specialty shops that carry specific foods:

Hentesárú – Butcher
Pákárú - Bakery
Zöldség–gyümölcs - vegies and fruits
ABC - Supermarket
living in the city
Since you are a student from a foreign country you might be worried about finding your way around Budapest initially. That is why we would like to help you with some useful information of the public transport system.

The public transport system of Budapest is called BKV (Budapesti Közlekedési Vállalat). The company runs metros on 3 lines, several buses, trams, trolley buses and a suburban railway. You can travel on the vehicles only with pre-purchased ticket or pass that you validate at the start of your trip. We highly recommend that you buy a monthly pass because it is not expensive for students on the European standard and you do not have to worry about the control people, who have the right to check your ticket and fine you for not having a valid one.
The metro lines are signed with numbers and colours (M1-yellow, M2-red, M3-blue). They run regularly and you can get to the main sights of the city by them. The M2 is the only line which runs in Buda, so you have to take other means of transport on that side of the river if you wanted to look around a bit more carefully. One of the most important routes of the transport system is the way where the 4/6 trams run. You can get free maps from tourist offices or you can find city maps in almost every single stop of the transport system.

The city wakes up at 4 (first metro goes at 4. Most of the busses and trams starts at 5am. Trams and metro runs till 11pm.

**NIGHT TRANSPORT**

**YESS!!! There is night transport in Budapest on main routes of BKV. Night busses, usually start at midnight and runs till 4am, every night. Night busses numbers starts with number 9**

Tram 4-6 – Night bus 906
Bus no 7 – Night bus 907
Bus no 78 – Night bus 978

Metro lines
Line no 3 (Blue line) - Nigh bus 914, 950
Line no 2 (Red line) - Night bus no 907 between Örs vezér tér and Astoria than you have to choose an other line depending where do you want to go on Buda side.

Note Some night busses on very busy places are running quite often (every 15th min) but lines running to subs goes once or twice in an hour.

for more information check out the website of BKV
TICKETS
There are several kinds of tickets and passes, we will put the most important ones in this book.

Single ticket: HUF 185
Student monthly pass: HUF 2600
Tourist ticket (valid for 3 days): HUF 2500

Metro tickets:
Metro section ticket HUF 130 – for 3 Metro stops in downtown
Metro section transfer ticket HUF 200 – in downtown for few stops
Metro transfer ticket HUF 300 you can change lines (at Deák tér)

If you want more details of the public transport system check out the BKV english website: www.bkv.hu/angol
Cultural sidenote: watch the movie, Kontroll to get the real taste of BKV and how Hungarian people feel about it.
CYCLING

In Budapest there is 141km of bicycle road which for such a big city is not really enough. However cycling became very popular nowadays. If you decide to go by bike, please be very careful, since the drivers are still not familiar to share the roads.

There are many civil organisations working on building new cycle lanes ect. but its still hard to find a map with bicycle roads. If you are planning to go by bike, you have to be prepared that even if you have some bicycle lane, probably it will end in a few and you will have to go among cars.

Biggest bike movement: Criticalmass,

Useful info:
www.criticalmass.hu
HOW TO MAKE A CALL

THE BIGGEST Hungarian landline company used to be MATAV which is called Magyar Telekom – Hungarian Telekom now. Of course there are many other providers. Probably living in Budapest your provider will be the Hungarian Telekom. They have many discounts etc. To check that go to www.magyartelekom.hu/english/

A full Hungarian number (calling from abroad) +36 1 555-55-55
Country code areacode the number in the city (just the numbers of Budapest and mobile phone numbers consists of 7 digits, other cities has 6 digit number)

To call a city from another one (For example from Budapest to Debrecen)
O6 52 555-555

Calling a cell phone from a landline or from your cell phone, (in this case a T-Mobile number)
O6 30 682-6492

Calling Budapest from your cell phone or calling Budapest from another city
O6 1 555-555-55
Budapest – Budapest landline calls
555-555-55

Area codes:
1 Budapest
20 Pannon GSM cell phones/mobile
30 T-Mobile cell phones
40 Green numbers (half of the price is paid by you half by the other part)
70 Vodafone cell phones
80 Green numbers (free)
90 Raised calling fee
Mobile

In the previous part you saw how to make a call. If you would like to buy a mobile phone, all of the mobile companies offers you two possibilities: prepaid phone card or normal abonament. However, most of the mobile companies use calls through the Internet when you are calling abroad. Its not as cheap as calling cards, but still an option. For this contact your mobile phone provider.

It is obvious that having a cell phone would make your life easier in Hungary. If you needed to contact your new friends or mentors, this is the easiest way to do so. Buying a new cell phone is quite expensive, especially since you would not be able to sign up for a plan with any mobile companies. Simply because that requires Hungarian residency . Therefore, you will have to buy a prepaid SIM card which constantly requires you to put money on the phone to make calls. What we highly recommend is to buy a used mobile phone, which is way cheaper and usually comes with 1 year warranty. Ask your mentor for more help with buying one.

The three mobilie companies

www.t-mobile.hu
www.pannongsm.hu
www.vodafone.hu
If you want to make **international phone calls** the cheapest way is to buy a prepaid international calling card and call abroad as instructed on the card.

Some low cost cards are:
- **TELECARD** www.telecard.hu
- **NEOPHONE** www.neophone.hu
- **PRIVATE TALK** www.privatetalk.hu
- **TIK TAK TALK** www.tiktaktalk.hu - website just in Hungarian
- **NO LIMITS** www.nolimits.hu

We know how important it is to get connected with home when you are abroad so note, that anytime you would like to use the Internet, the Committee for International Affairs will help you to connect to the web. Come into our office, to get online.
**INTERNET**

Every faculty at the University has its own computer lab. The locations are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Opening times</th>
<th>Copy</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ÁJTK 'A' building 4th floor</td>
<td>8:00-18:00</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>You can also find some machines in the lobbies of the buildings. Need to get registered first.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A building wireless, you can use it with your notebook</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BGGYFK Fszt. 64</td>
<td>As the building</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BTK 'F' building 2nd floor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IK 'Lovarda'</td>
<td>8:00-22:00</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Only for IK students (Student ID required)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PPK Room 0.14</td>
<td>8:00-16:00</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TáTK É -1.54</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TÓFK None</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTK 'Lovarda'</td>
<td>Same as IK</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Only for TTK students (Student ID required)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because the financial status of the University is not very good, the Faculties tend to use the computer labs for tuition purposes. Please always ask the supervisor of the room, whether a class is coming up.
Anyway, if you are unable to find the labs, there are some computers in the libraries of the Faculties (you can find the addresses above), and there are also machines in public libraries and in the countless Internet cafés throughout the city.

You can also find numerous hotspots in the city. For the most complete list please visit this site: www.hotspotter.hu/en

If you are living in the dormitory, you should register yourself to have an Internet access. It is available in every room, but please ask the supervisors for details. Internet in the dormitories is usually free, but some dormitories charge you a little sum every month for using it. Ask your net administrator for further information about this.

If you are living in a flat, you may choose between various Internet providers. The DSL line costs about 6-10,000 HUF per month, but the competition is fierce, and the providers should lower their prices in the future a little bit. For this amount of money you can get unlimited access and reasonable download speed. We or your mentor can help you with that. If the Internet is not in the flat, ask the landlord whether you can subscribe. There are also wireless providers, and you can also use your cell phone as a modem.

You can photocopy your stuff in the libraries, but you will also find many places which offer this kind of service for a reasonable price. There are also some copy machines at the campuses. If you have some change – here’s the place to spend it!
more information
Survival Guide to Living in Budapest!!!

Social:
1. Don’t be scared of old people.
2. Never sit on a bus, tram or metro when there are older people around. If you do, be prepared for the nastiest looks in town. Not a bad idea to have a camera handy in such an event.
3. Do not risk NOT having a ticket on the metro cause the controllers can be quite the sticklers. On the trams and busses, you can risk it by standing by the puncher things.
4. Do not expect a confirmation call about a rendezvous date set with a local Hungarian a week or two ago. No they do NOT forget appointments and will be very pissed off if you do not show.
5. When grocery shopping do not forget to weigh your fruits and veggies, get the little sticker before you get to the cash register!
6. Make sure that when you do go grocery shopping to any of the big stores like Match, or Kaiser, you have budgeted at least 30 minutes to stand in queue. At rush hour, from about 4-7pm, you can easily spend five times the amount of your time in the store in line waiting for that lil old lady ahead of you count out, twenty, twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five….. thirty-six forints. Ahhhhh!
7. Be prepared to ask for, and PAY for ketchup with your fries at any Burger King, Mc Donalds etc. But do not be surprised when you get it for free with the slice of pizza you ordered!!

8. ICE. Make your own. Because really, there is no way to get some in a bag for a party. In despiration ask your least favorite guests to bring some from the McDonalds near their house, that way you personally avoid the dirty looks.

9. Do not get offended when people speak louder and slower in Hungarian in hopes that you will somehow magically comprehend the language.

10. Locate the nearest 24-shop around your place, and be friendly with the shop owner because they will be your best buddies before and after the party.

11. And the best for last, ALWAYS have a PESTI EST in your bag!!! It is a booklet with all the information you would need. You can find cinema schedules, cafes, party places as well as restaurants updated weekly.

Prices to compare:

- Monthly student pass for the transportation: 2,600 HUF
- Single ticket: 185 HUF
- Loaf of bread: 120 HUF
- 1 liter milk: 180 HUF
- Pack of cigarettes: 500 HUF
- Bottle of cheapest wine: 200 HUF
- Bottle of decent wine: 1,200 HUF
- Cup of coffee in a cafe: 2-300 HUF
- 1 bottle of vodka: 1,500 HUF
Survival Dictionary:

Good morning:
Good evening:
Hi/Bye:
My name is...:
How much?:
Cheers:
Can I have a beer please?:
Where is the toilette?:
I am drunk:
Can I have the bill please?:
Where are we going out tonight?:
Where is the student government office?:

Help!:
Hospital:
Ambulance:
Police:
Fire dept:

Jó reggelt!
Jó estét!
Szia!
Az én nevem...
Mennyi?
Egészségedre!
Kérek szépen egy sört!
Hol van a WC?
Részeg vagyok.
Kérem szépen a számlát!
Hova megyünk bulizni ma este?
Hol van a HÖK (hallgatói önkormányzat) iroda?
Segítség!
Kórház
Mentők
Rendőrség
Tűzoltóság

Dont forget that most of the exchange students for egzample studetns on Erasmus scholarship has free hungarian language classes provided by the university. Program is held az MUK campus (Múzeum avenue 4 building F on the first floor at: Magyar Nyelvi Lektorátus) You need to sign in at the beginning of a term.
Useful links
http://kulugy.ehok.elte.hu/
http://www.budapest-tourist-guide.com/
http://www.budapestinfo.hu/en/
http://www.bkv.hu/angol/home/index.html
http://www.menetrendek.hu/
http://www.pestiest.hu/
YOU MIGHT be a little confused after these pages. But do not worry. If there are any unanswered questions, we are here to answer them. This section gives you the most important information: our contacts. Please feel free to write us an e-mail or visit us in our office. Our job is to help you, so we will always welcome you and try to assist you in whatever way possible.
For the part of the University Students’ Union:

**Name: Márton Ugrósdy**  
Position: Vice president for International Relations and head of the Students’ Committee on Foreign Affairs  
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**Name: Kata Imre**  
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Office location: Budapest V, Gerlóczy u. 11.  
E-mail: kata.imre@isas.elte.hu

You will find the office hours at our homepage. Those times are dependent on our classes, so we can tell you that after the semester have started. Please check out our website - [http://kulugy.ehok.elte.hu](http://kulugy.ehok.elte.hu)

We also recommend to get in contact with the

**Erasmus and CEEPUS Central Office: Centre for Scientific, Innovation and Grant Affairs**  
1056 Budapest, Szerb utca 21-23.  
e-mail: erasmus@rekthiv.elte.hu

**International Student’s Advisory Service:**  
**Name: Márton Bélk**  
Phone:+36-1-48552000 - 8255, 1357 extention number  
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Here also are our contacts
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