

## BUDAPEST

**Budapest** is the capital and the largest city of **Hungary**, it serves as the country's principal political, cultural, commercial, industrial, and transportation center and is considered an important hub in **Central Europe**. The city covers an area of 525 square kilometres (202.7 sq mi) within the city limits. Budapest became a single city occupying both banks of the river Danube with the unification on 17 November 1873, of right-bank (west) **Buda** and **Óbuda** (Old Buda) together with Pest on the left (east) bank.

Widely regarded as one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, its extensive World Heritage Site includes the banks of the **Danube**, the Buda Castle Quarter, Andrásy Avenue, Heroes' Square and the Millennium Underground Railway, the second oldest in Europe. Other highlights include a total of 80 geothermal springs, the world's largest thermal water cave system, second largest synagogue, and third largest Parliament building.

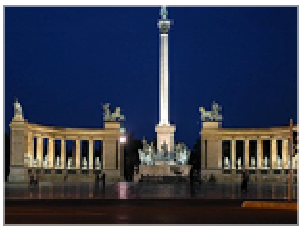


**Buda Castle** is the historical castle of the Hungarian kings in **Budapest**, first completed in 1265. In the past, it was also called Royal Palace and Royal Castle. Buda Castle was built on the southern tip of Castle Hill, next to the old Castle District, which is famous for its medieval, Baroque and 19th century houses and public buildings. It is linked to **Adam Clark Square** and the **Széchenyi Chain Bridge** by the Castle Hill Funicular. Buda Castle is part of the Budapest World Heritage Site.



**St. Stephen's Basilica** is an ecclesiastic basilica. It is named in honour of Stephen, the first King of Hungary (c 975–1038). Along with the **Hungarian Parliament Building**, it is the tallest building of Budapest (96 m). It has a width of 55 meters, and its length is 87.4 meters. It was completed in 1905 after 54 years of construction. Much of this delay can be attributed to the collapse of the dome in 1868 which required complete demolition of the completed works and rebuilding from the ground up. The architectural style is neoclassical; it has a Greek cross groundplan. The façade is anchored by two large bell towers. Visitors may access the dome by elevators or 364 stairs for a 360° view overlooking **Budapest**.

**Andrássy Avenue** is an iconic boulevard in Budapest, dating back to 1872. It links **Erzsébet tér** ("Elizabeth Square") with **Városliget** (the "City Park"). Flanked by Eclectic Neo-renaissance palaces and houses featuring fine facades, staircases and interiors, it was recognised as a World Heritage Site in 2002 (along with the Millennium Underground Railway, Hősök tere and Városliget). The avenue is also home to many upscale boutiques.



**Hősök tere**, meaning "**Heroes' Square**" in Hungarian, is one of the major squares of **Budapest**, rich with historic and political connotations. It lies at the end of **Andrássy Avenue** next to **City Park**. Hősök tere is surrounded by two important buildings, Museum of Fine Arts on the left and Palace of Art (or Art Exhibition Museum) on the right. On the other side it faces Andrassy Avenue which has two buildings looking at the square — one is residential and the other one is the embassy of Serbia (former Yugoslavian embassy where Imre Nagy secured sanctuary in 1956).

**Dohány Street Synagogue** is located in **Erzsébetváros**, the 7th district of **Budapest**. It is the largest synagogue in Eurasia and the second largest in the world, after the Temple Emanu-El. It seats 3,000 people and is a centre of Neolog Judaism. The synagogue is 75m long and 27m wide and was built between 1854 and 1859 in the Moorish Revival style, based chiefly on Moorish models from North Africa and Spain, according to a plan by German Ludwig Förster.

**The Széchenyi Medicinal Bath** in Budapest is the largest medicinal bath in Europe. Its water is supplied by two thermal springs, their temperature is 74°F/23°C and 77°F/25°C, respectively. The bath can be found in the City Park, and was built in 1913 in Neo-baroque style to the design of Győző Czigler.

## DO

- Experience an opera at Budapest's spectacular State Opera House or a performance of classical music at any of Budapest's many concert halls.
- Buda Hill Labyrinth. The Labyrinths are accessible by two points on the Buda hills. The labyrinth is now a popular tourist attraction.
- Walk around and look at the market stands and the entertainment on some of the bridges in the evening.

## HUNGARY GRAND PRIX BUDAPEST

Each year in summer runs **the Hungary Formula 1 Grand Prix** on the Hungaroring circuit.

For more information: [Grand Prix in Hungary](#)

## INFORMATION

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