



# **BUDAPEST CITY GUIDE**

## **2025**

Hosted by the Magyar Nemzeti Bank

# Welcome to Budapest

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ARRIVAL IN BUDAPEST

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The Budapest Liszt Ferenc International Airport is located approximately 25 km from the city centre.

For further information see: <https://www.bud.hu/en>

Call Center: +36 1 296 7000

### MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION BETWEEN THE AIRPORT AND THE HOTEL

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#### Taxi

If you would like to go to town by taxi, either order one via phone or take one of the **Főtaxi's cars** waiting outside the airport. Főtaxi is the official taxi company of Liszt Ferenc International Airport. They have a stand at both terminals (2A and 2B). The company operates at a fixed tariff of 440 HUF/Km (1.15 EUR/Km) in addition to the one-off basic fee of 1100 HUF (2.85 EUR) and waiting fee. At the taxi stands you can find a map showing tariffs, you can pay by cash or credit card. The estimated travel time is 40 minutes, depending on traffic.

- **transfer fee: approx. HUF 12.000** (from the airport to the inner city)
- **for further information see:** <https://fotaxi.hu/en/>
- **phone: +36 1 222 22 22**

#### miniBUD

**MiniBUD** is the official airport shuttle service provider for Budapest Airport. It is a kind of collective taxi with a boarding capacity of 8 to 10 passengers. The mini buses handle transfers between the airport to the passenger's accommodation. The service is available 24/7. MiniBUD airport shuttle service desks can be found at both terminals. Tickets can be purchased at the arrival customs area or at the LRI Airport Passenger Service desk in the waiting area. You can pay by cash or credit card at the desks. You can order your minibus online too. The transfer from the airport to the major hotels takes approximately 1 hour depending on traffic.

- **transfer fee: approx. HUF 12.000** (from the airport to the inner city)
- **for further information see:** <https://www.minibud.hu/en>
- **Call Center: +36 1 550 0000**

### Public transport

If you choose public transportation, first you have to take Bus No 100E from the airport to Astoria Metro Station. At Astoria Metro Station, you need to transfer to Bus No 5 (direction to Pasaréti tér) and take Alagút utca stop, which is located close to the head office of the Hungarian National Bank (MNB), where the event is organized. Tickets can be purchased directly from the bus driver or at the Customer Service Points of BKK Centre for Budapest Transport at the airport's Terminals. For longer stays BKK offers more convenient travelcards for visitors (24, 48 or 72-hour travel passes).

Please note that tickets are only valid if you have them stamped or punched:

- prior to the start of travel on metro lines M1, M2, M3 and M4 upon entering the station,
- immediately after boarding on other vehicles inside the vehicle.

Please note that tickets have to be validated (paper tickets have to be stamped or punched):

- prior to the start of travel on metro lines M1, M2, M3 and M4 upon entering the station,
- immediately after boarding on other vehicles inside the vehicle.

**For tickets and passes visit:** <https://bkk.hu/en/tickets-and-passes/>

**For general information visit:** <https://bkk.hu/en/visiting-budapest/booklet-practical-guide-to-budapest-public-transport/>

### CREDIT CARDS

Major credit/debit cards can be used to get cash from ATMs in banks and on the streets as well as to pay bills in hotels, restaurants, taxi cars and shops.

### EXCHANGING MONEY

All visitors are advised to exchange currency only at accredited places. The majority of banks have 24-hour ATM's, some of them can also exchange foreign currency. Individual banks and travel agencies are free to set their own rates, but they must be clearly displayed. Rates offered at *bureaux de change* in the city centre and near the main railway stations are generally better than those available in the banks, at the airport or in the hotels. **The Hungarian currency is Forint (HUF, local abbreviation: Ft).** There are coins to the value of 5, 10, 20, 50, 100 and 200 Forints, and banknotes for 500, 1.000, 2.000, 5.000, 10.000 and 20.000 Forints.

## ELECTRICITY

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Hungary's electricity network operates at 220/230 Volts and uses Schuko-type sockets with two round prongs.

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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**General emergency number: 112**

**Ambulance: 104**

**Fire service: 105**

**Police: 107**

## VENUE

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The Magyar Nemzeti Bank has several buildings in Budapest. The event will take place at the [MNB headquarters](#) at Krisztina körút 55., H-1013 Budapest.

## TIME ZONE

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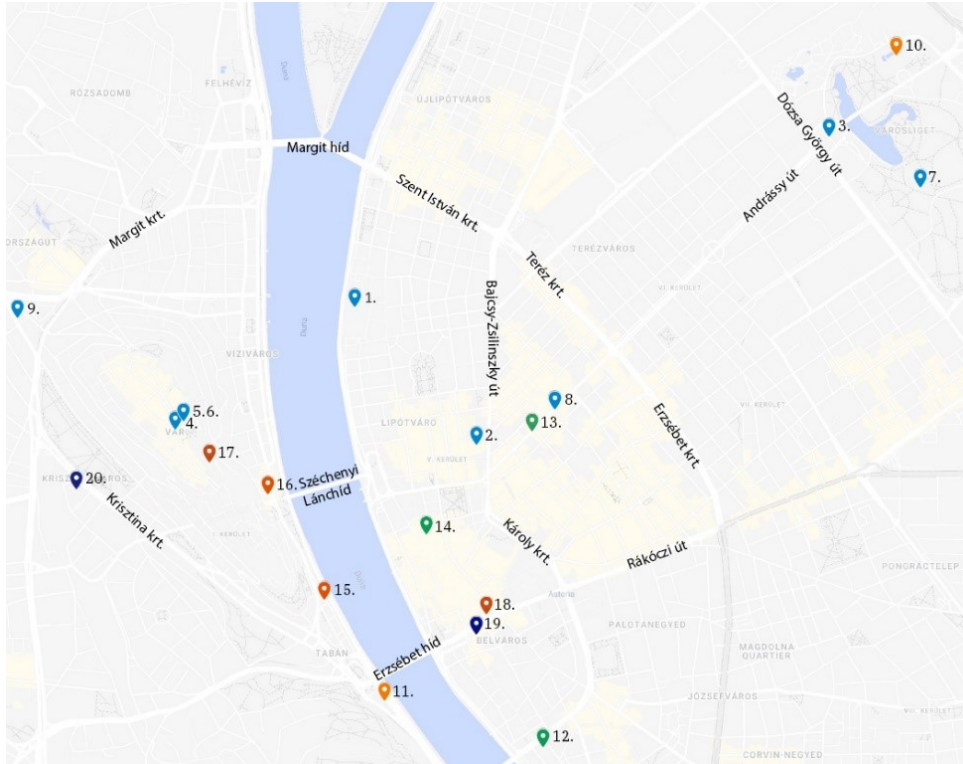
Budapest is on Central European time: GMT+1, Daylight Saving Time (Apr-Oct): GMT+2

# CAPITAL CITY

Budapest is among the world's most romantic and entertaining capitals. Not nicknamed the "Paris of the East" for nothing, it boasts broad boulevards and green parks, grand Art-Nouveau mansions, vibrantly painted churches, lively cafés, and world-class music venues. The city's divided into two parts by the meandering Danube, iconically spanned by several stunning bridges. **Flatter Pest** is the country's political and business hub, fuller of life than its twin, called Buda, across the water. It gives home for the bulk of the city's restaurants, bars and cafés, alongside classy boutiques, and striking 19<sup>th</sup>-century mansions. Stroll tree lined Andrassy Avenue, stopping at the realistic House of Terror in the former secret police headquarters.

**Hilly Buda** falls on the western side of the river. Wander among the sights of its cobbled **Castle District** (perched atop Castle Hill) after a vertical ride on the funicular railway or a winding hillside walk, and have your breath taken away by views at the top.

**Map of sights (blue), baths (orange), shopping opportunities (green), restaurants (red), hotel (dark blue) – detailed on the following pages**





## 1. THE HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT

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The Hungarian Parliament is located on the Pest side of Budapest, between the Margaret and Chain bridges. The



construction of the neo-gothic building began in 1885, following the blueprints made by Imre Steindl, and was finished in 1904. The building of the Parliament serves as the permanent seat of the National Assembly. It has 691 rooms, and it is 268 meters long and the dome is 96 meters high. Since 2000, the

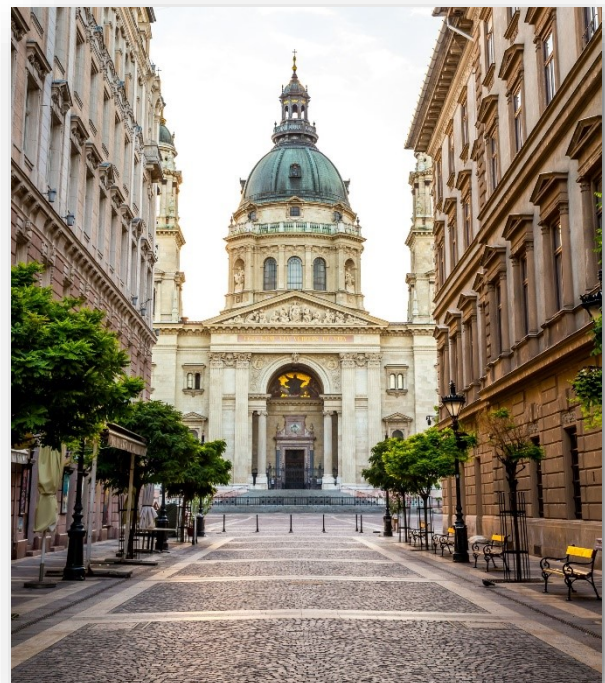
Hungarian coronation symbols — the Holy Crown of Hungary, the sceptre, the orb and the sword — are displayed in the Parliament.

<https://www.parlament.hu/en/web/house-of-the-national-assembly>

## 2. ST. STEPHEN'S BASILICA

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St. Stephen's Basilica is one of the most significant ecclesiastical buildings of Hungary as well as a major tourist attraction of the capital, also located on the Pest side. It serves as the main site of worship for St. Stephen. The Basilica is named after St. Stephen, the founder of the Kingdom of Hungary, whose incorruptible right hand, known as the Holy Right, is kept here as a relic. It is the largest church in Budapest, the dome of which can be seen from all parts of the city. The Classicist Basilica was built between 1851 and 1905. The dome of the building offers a breathtaking 360° view of Budapest.



<https://www.bazilika.biz/en>

### 3. HEROES' SQUARE

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This Pest-side-located spectacular ensemble of statues was erected in 1896 to commemorate the thousandth anniversary of the Hungarian Conquest of the Carpathian Basin. The lower pedestal is occupied by the ornate horseback statues of the seven Hungarian leaders who led



the nation into the Carpathian Basin in 896 AD. The middle of the square is dominated by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Heroes' Square is part of the UNESCO World Heritage. On the left side of the square, the Museum of Fine Arts can be found, giving home for thousands of artworks from prehistory to the present and

on the right side is the Art Hall, which is the home to temporary exhibitions in Budapest. Behind Heroes' Square is the City Park which has several entertainment and cultural facilities, such as: the Budapest Zoo, the Municipal Circus and the Vajdahunyad Castle.

### 4. THE BUDA CASTLE DISTRICT

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The view of the Danube embankments and the Buda Castle District are also listed as part of the UNESCO World Heritage. In the castle district, visitors get a distinct feeling that they have travelled back in time, to a totally tally tranquil world, where the doorways of the Baroque residential homes hide historical Roman stones and beautifully carved statues from the time of knights. The former Royal Palace and its supply buildings are organic but separate parts of the Castle District.



## 5. MATTHIAS CHURCH

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The church, which is more than 700 years old, is located in the Buda Castle District and is one of the 'must see' sights of Budapest. The records from 1247 first mention this church as the main church of Buda Castle. From 1247, since it was the main church of the Buda Castle. This early-gothic styled church had a colourful history. It has been rebuilt and

expanded many times over the centuries and once, when the Turks invaded Hungary, this church was turned into a mosque. Later, between 1874 and 1896, Frigyes Schulek completely reconstructed the building in a neo-gothic style to give its current look.

## 6. FISHERMAN'S BASTION

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Located in the Buda Castle District, Fisherman's Bastion is one of Budapest's best-known landmarks, and is a favourite tourist destination. Built in the Romanesque Revival style, the Bastion's terraces offer a stunning view of Budapest. The Danube and the Parliament building can perhaps be seen at their finest from the vantage point of the Fisherman's Bastion.

The beautiful structure, prized by art historians, was built between 1895 and 1902 according to plans by architect Frigyes Schulek. Severely damaged during the Second World War, the structure was restored by Frigyes Schulek's son, János Schulek.





## 7. THE HOUSE OF MUSIC, HUNGARY

The [House of Music, Hungary](#) was built to welcome music lovers of all ages to fulfil their creativity and imagination within the world of music. This Pest-side-located building was



designed by Sou Fujimoto who won several international awards for his excellent architectural work. Apart from the world-famous live music events, concerts and workshops, the House of Music, Hungary was also awarded as the World's Best Use of Music in Property Development at the American Music Cities Awards in 2020. The

piece of Mr Fujimoto's art was addressed as the Best International Public Building and the Best European Public Building at the International Property Awards in 2019. The team's mission is to create an exquisite community and exclusive experiences for customers.

Address: Olof Palme sétány 3., H-1146 Budapest

## 8. HUNGARIAN STATE OPERA HOUSE

The [Hungarian State Opera House](#) is a neo-Renaissance opera house located in central Budapest, on Andrásy út. Originally known as the Hungarian Royal Opera House, it was designed by Miklós Ybl, a major figure of 19th-century Hungarian architecture. Construction began in 1875, funded by the city of Budapest and by Emperor Franz Joseph I of Austria-Hungary, and the new house opened to the public on the 27 September 1884.



Address: Andrásy út 22., H-1061 Budapest

## 9. MONEY MUSEUM

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The [Hungarian Money Museum and Visitor Centre](#), established by the Magyar Nemzeti Bank, was created to help you find the way around the world of money. The exhibition space contains many experiences and adventures, all of which help the visitor to get to know new aspects of the circulation and use of money. The mission is to prove that anyone can understand how money works. The

whole society can get richer, both literally and metaphorically by the Museum providing greater knowledge and deeper awareness.

Address: Krisztina körút 6., H-1122 Budapest

## BATHS

### 10. SZÉCHENYI THERMAL BATH

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This Pest-side [bath](#) is one of the largest spa complexes in Europe. The bath's thermal water comes from a depth of 1250 meters and its temperature is approx. 77°C. The water in the thermal pools is reduced to 30-40°C with healing effect that can help in curing the disorders of joints of the hips and knees, chronic arthritis, rehabilitation after orthopaedic surgery and trauma – vertebral disease, chronic arthritis in inactive stages and neuralgic pain.

Address: Állatkerti krt. 9-11., H-1146 Budapest





## 11. RUDAS THERMAL BATH

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The [bath](#) was one of the first thermal baths of which centrepiece was built in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The octagonal Turkish bath is used for therapeutic purposes and provides sauna facility since 1986. Not only bath treatments, but drinking therapy is also available in Rudas consuming the water of the springs Hungária, Attila and

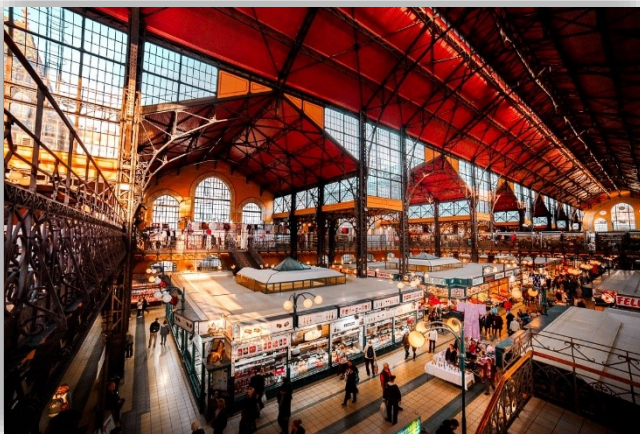
Juventus. Wellness enthusiasts can enjoy the traditional water massage, the Sky Terrace both during the day and at night.

Address: Döbrentei tér 9., H-1013 Budapest

## SHOPPING

## 12. CENTRAL MARKET HALL

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Visit the [Central Market Hall](#) at end of Liberty Bridge to combine shopping with Pest-side sightseeing. Most of the stalls on the ground floor offer popular souvenirs such as paprika and wine from Tokaj.

Address: Vámház körút 1-3., H-1093 Budapest

### 13. ANDRÁSSY AVENUE – LUXURY SHOPS

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Andrássy Avenue, a part of the UNESCO World Heritage, is an iconic boulevard in Budapest dating back to 1872. It is one of Budapest's main shopping streets, with fine cafés, restaurants, and luxury boutiques. Most of the buildings which are located on the avenue, were built in the Eclectic and Neo-renaissance styles; probably, the most outstanding structure is the Opera House. One of the Avenue's greatest attractions is the Millennium Underground Railway, also known as metro line M1. This was the second underground railway to be built world-wide, and the first in the continent.

### 14. VÁCI STREET – VÖRÖSMARTY SQUARE

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The centrally located Vörösmarty Square (Vörösmarty tér) is unmissable since it is located in the inner city of Budapest (district V.), just for a moment walk from the Danube. The city's famous shopping street, Váci utca starts here stretching all the way to the Central Market Hall at Fővám Square. The square hosts large-scale events liked very much both by locals and travellers visiting Budapest (for example Christmas Market, Easter & Spring Fair). Europe's first underground line (built in the late 19th century and commonly known as [Kisföldalatti](#) or metro line M1 in Hungary), connecting the downtown with the City Park/Heroes' Square (Városliget/Hősök tere) has a station here, right in front of [Café Gerbeaud](#), which is known for its delicious cakes and pastries since its establishment in 1870.





# RESTAURANTS

## 15. FELIX KITCHEN AND BAR

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Felix Kitchen and Bar is a contemporary art space where traditional style mixes with the modern gastronomy. Guests can enjoy delicious meals both international and local specialties booth up with premium quality. *“Fortune, harmony, liberty are all part of the name, and Felix is with us more than ever.”*

The restaurant is unique of being located in the heart of a pumping station which was an exhibition centre for the Ybl Buda Creative House. Nowadays, it also holds the name **AQUA** in which both gastronomy and contemporary art embraces. The precious outlet

earned a Michelin-star in 2021 for their amazing service and high-quality standards.

Address: Ybl Miklós tér 9., H-1019 Budapest

[Felix Kitchen & Bar](#)



## 16. URBAN BETYÁR

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Food and tradition come together at Urban Betyár, a restaurant, museum and event venue in the heart of the city centre. The small museum - called Ethnographical Visitors Centre -



portrays Hungarian rural life in the 19th and early 20th centuries with original artefacts and modern interactive displays. Each room captures different aspects, eras and locations in Hungarian peasant culture, from carved and painted furniture and chests, original glazed ceramics and paintings to traditional costumes. With its unique interior design,

open kitchen and cocktail bar, the restaurant is home to the best of Hungarian cuisine. Urban Betyár is a complex food and cultural hub in the city centre that is respectful of tradition but also open to experimentation.

Address: Október 6. utca 16-18.

[Urban Betyár](#)

## 17. 17 ROYAL GUARD AND RIDING HALL

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The Royal Guard, authentically restored in the National Hauszmann Program, has opened its gates for visitors on 14 May 2021 in the heart of the Castle district. On the first floor of the reborn Royal Guard building a long needed exhibition is displayed. Over five hundred paintings, lithographs and archive photographs, mostly displayed for the first time, showcase the 260-year history of the Hungarian guards with several interesting objects. We can sample the tastes of the Hungarian history, with coffee or some refreshments, in the atmospheric halls of the Royal Guard Café. Stroll in the castle and rest for a while on the Royal Guard's stately balcony, with some sparkling wine and dessert.

Address: Hunyadi-udvar (Hunyadi-courtyard), H-1014 Budapest

[Főőrség & Lovarda \(foorseg.hu\)](http://foorseg.hu)



## 18. ARANYBÁSTYA ÉTTEREM - KÁVÉHÁZ

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Aranybástya Cafe and Restaurant is the ideal venue of an unforgettable experience, bringing



to life the wonderful memories and values of the past. The classicist palace was designed by Miklós Ybl. The room interior evokes the atmosphere of an exquisite salon, serving to foster exciting conversation. The design combines class and contemporary elements and is embraced by two terraces offering

a uniquely beautiful panorama.

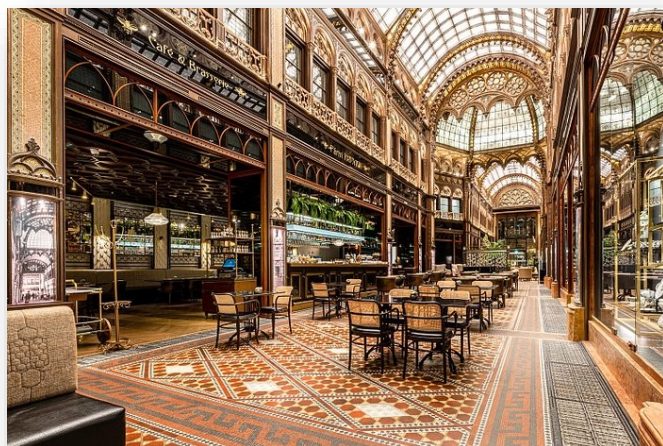
Address: Csónak utca 1., H-1015 Budapest

[Aranybástya Étterem - Kávéház \(aranybastya.com\)](http://aranybastya.com)

## 19. PÁRISI PASSAGE – CAFÉ & BRASSERIE

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The Párisi Passage Café & Brasserie is located in the stunningly award-winning, magical building of the Párisi Udvar Hotel. The enchanting environment, reminiscent of the last century, immediately captivates everyone. The restaurant soon became a favourite place of the local public and is characterized by an endless, lively life. Recommended for those for whom high, uncompromising quality is as important as an effortless, relaxed dining experience. The head chef of the Párisi Passage - Lajos Lutz, a member of the Hungarian Bocuse d'Or Academy - has created something extraordinary. The menu is an exciting fusion of traditional Hungarian, French and international cuisine. Quality and, wherever possible, the use of local seasonal ingredients are key to our operation. Our dishes are accompanied by a wide and varied drinks menu and an impressive champagne selection.



Address: Ferenciek tere 10., H-1053 Budapest

[Párisi Passage – café&brasserie](#)

## 20. WHITE RAVEN SKYBAR & LOUNGE

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The White Raven Skybar & Lounge offers an incomparable experience. Introduce your senses to our Signature Collection: an iconic environment at a unique location with exclusive drinks, fascinating gastronomy, and the most captivating panorama.

Address: Budapest, Hess András tér 1-3, 1014



[White Raven Skybar & Lounge](#)



# Hotel

## PÁRISI UDVAR HOTEL BUDAPEST

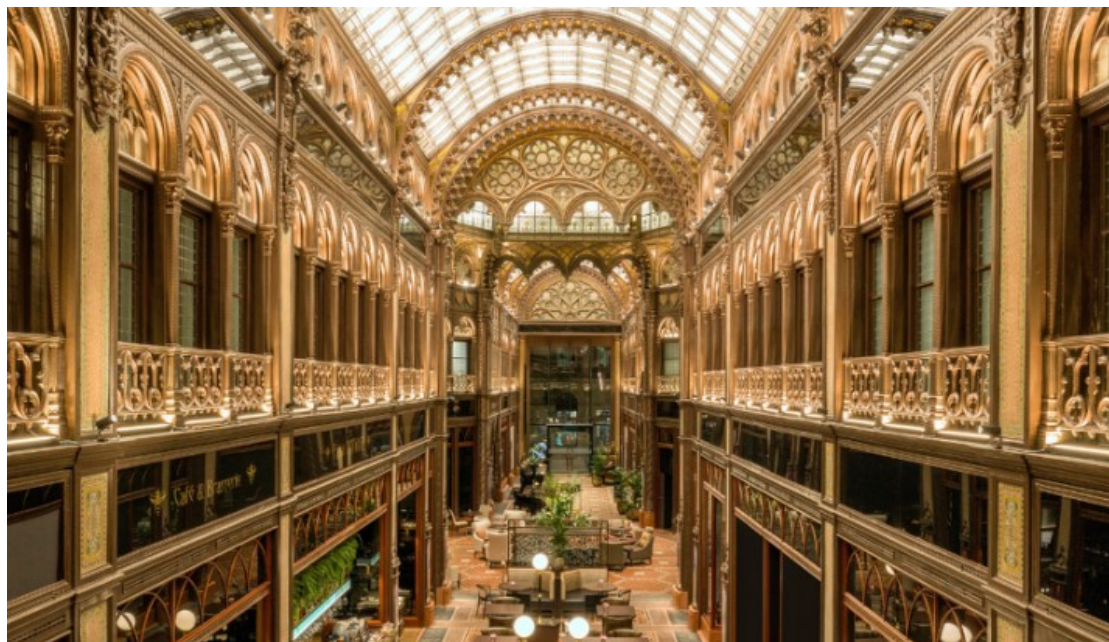
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Párisi Udvar Hotel Budapest is located in the city centre on the Pest side, surrounded by iconic sites, shops, restaurants, and cafés, just a few steps away from the river Danube. The hotel offers 110 upscale and spacious guestrooms including 18 luxurious suites and 2 presidential suites. The palatial Art Nouveau rooms, inspired by the fusion of gothic, Moorish and Oriental styles, and the enchanted history of the famous building are guarantee of an extraordinary stay.



Address: Budapest, Petőfi Sándor u. 2-4. 1052

[Párisi Udvar Hotel Budapest \(parisudvarhotel.hu\)](http://parisudvarhotel.hu)





## MERCURE BUDAPEST CASTLE HILL

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Mercure Castlehill is a newly renovated 4-star hotel, located only 4 underground stops away from the city center. You'll be able to discover the city on foot and enjoy the wonders of the Castle District. Our premium rooms are quiet, soundproof and air conditioned. The brand-new design inspired by the colorful and lively streets of Budapest. Centrally located, 5-minute walk through a nice park from the Castle. District, 10 minutes from the city center, direct access to public transport (Deli pu. station). Liszt Ferenc International Airport is 27 km. The Conference Centre of the Hungarian National Bank is 4-minute walk from the hotel straight ahead.

Address: I. Budapest, Krisztina Boulevard 41-43.

<https://mercurecastlehill.hu-budapest.com/en/>

