

**13TH ANNUAL ADVISORY FORUM
ON CULTURAL ROUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

**OPTIONAL CULTURAL AND TOURISTIC PROGRAMMES IN BUDAPEST AND
COUNTRYSIDE**

27–29 September 2024

DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE HUNGARIAN OPEN AIR MUSEUM

To register for the various optional programmes, please use the CULTURAL AND TOURISTIC PROGRAMMES REGSITRATION FORM which will be sent to all Forum registered participants in due course. For additional information: visegrad.forum@skanzen.hu].

OPTIONAL CULTURAL PROGRAMME: BUDAPEST

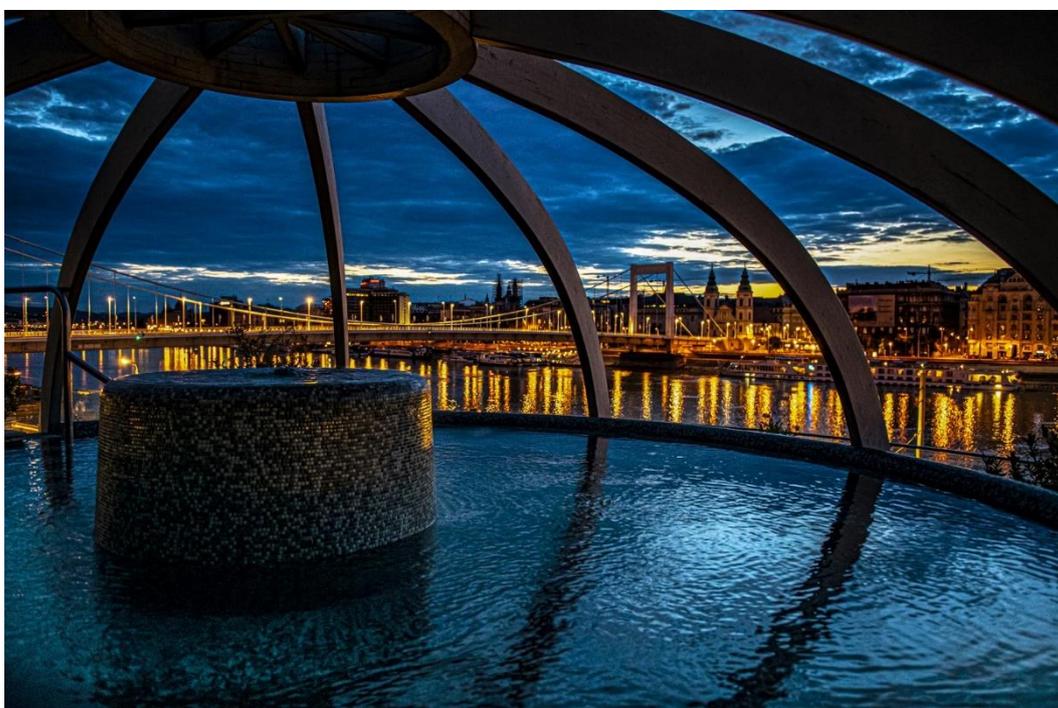
FRIDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER

Registration fee apply: to be borne by participants.

Night bathing at Rudas Mineral Baths

- Price: 6.300 HUF (approx. 16 EUR)
- Duration: Friday, 27 September, 22:00–03:00
- Language: English
- Location: Budapest
- Organised by the Hungarian Forum Staff in collaboration with the Hungarian representatives of the European Route of Historic Thermal Towns.

The centerpiece of the bath today, the Turkish bath, was built during the 16th century.. Below the 10 m diameter dome, sustained by 8 pillars, there is an octagonal pool. The swimming pool, operating as a therapeutic swimming facility and with a sauna, was built in 1896. After a period of operation exclusively for men from 1936 on, the Turkish tradition of bathing wearing an apron continues with days reserved for men and women separately since 2004. During the week-ends, access to the baths is open to all.



OPTIONAL CULTURAL PROGRAMMES: BUDAPEST

SATURDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER

Free programmes

Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Budapest: thematic walks

- Free programme
- Duration: 3 hours
- Language: English
- Meeting point for the walks listed below: 1052 Budapest, Deák Ferenc Square
- Departure time for the walks listed below: Saturday, 28 September, 09:00
- Organised by the Hungarian Forum Staff in collaboration with the representatives of the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe crossing Hungary

Walk 1. European Cemeteries Route, Budapest

FIUMEI ROAD CEMETERY

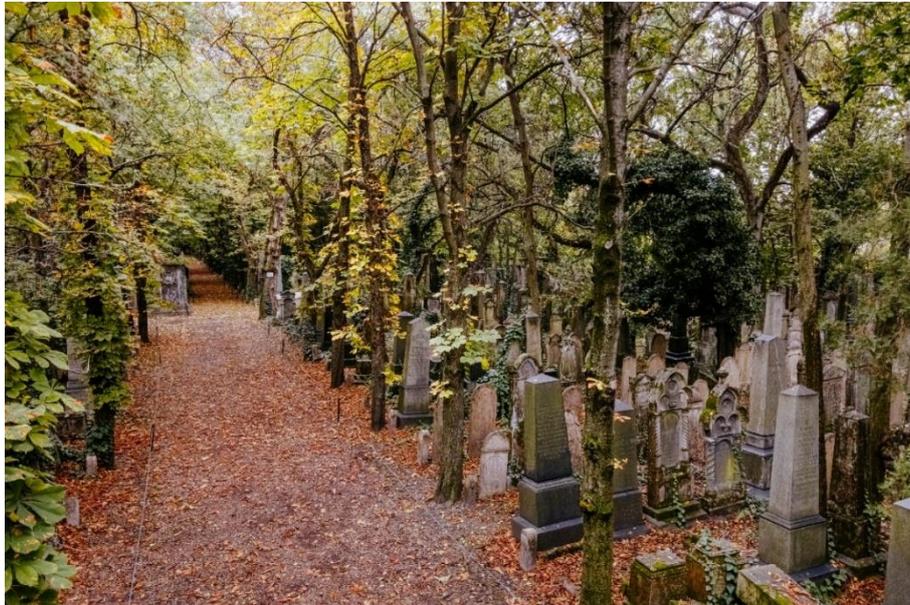
Fiumei Road Cemetery located in downtown Budapest is more than a graveyard: the arboretum of 56-hectares gives home to Hungary's largest collection of statues and has a unique flora and fauna with numerous different bird species.

The Cemetery was opened in 1849 as a public Pest cemetery. In 2014 it was declared a national memorial site, an open-air history book of modern-day Hungary images of art, wounds of war, secrets and symbols, and lives of the greatest Hungarians during the 1848–49 Revolution and War of Independence, the age of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy, the process of becoming one nation, the communist era, the 1956 Revolution, and the democratic multi-party system.



SALGÓTARJÁNI STREET JEWISH CEMETERY

The Salgótarjáni Street Jewish Cemetery, opened in 1874, is a testimonial of the country's social and economic history. Most of its mausoleums were built for the business elite arising during the reign of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy; it is a faithful reminder of Jewish emancipation and the 20th century tragedy of Hungarian Jews, commemorated also by a memorial to the Budapest Ghetto victims. The Cemetery was opened to the public in 2016. Its remarkable atmosphere is characterised by the particular symbiosis of buildings, stones and vegetation.



Walk 2. European Route of Historic Thermal Towns, Budapest

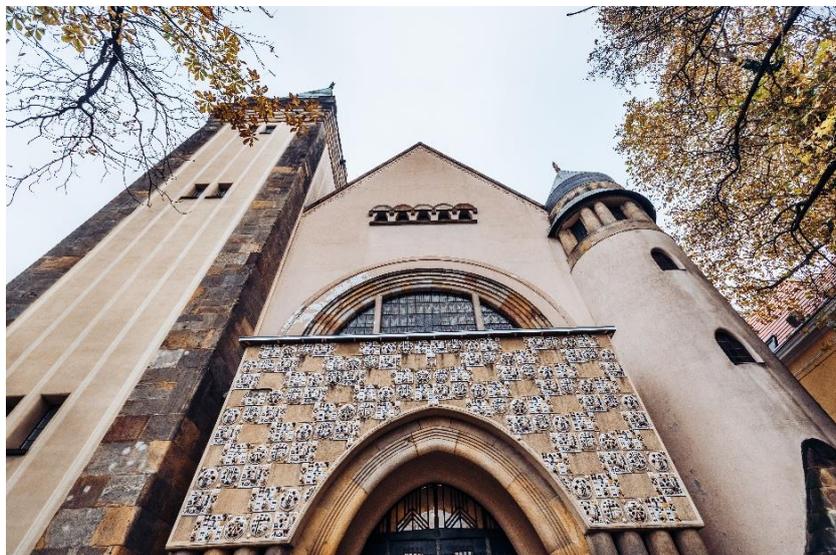
Budapest is the only capital in the world with as many as 118 natural sources, and is the capital with the most curative thermal water wells (12 qualified curative waters, 12 qualified mineral waters).

The bathing culture of Budapest dates back to the time of the Celts, however, the Roman age was its first significant era, with 15 baths operating in the city already in the 2nd century BC according to the records. During the crusades, so-called spitals were built near the baths to treat the wounded soldiers. Some of the still operating baths of Budapest were founded by the Ottoman. Rudas Bath have been functioning for 500 years. At that time, our capital was called as the Mecca of Rheumatics due to the salutary effects of its curative waters. The golden age of the bath culture came at the beginning of the twentieth century. This is when the Széchenyi Thermal Baths, the first healing baths of Pest, the biggest complex of baths in both Budapest and Europe were built, which simultaneously represent the Roman, Greek and northern bath culture with their 21 pools and numerous saunas, aroma and steam rooms. This is when one of the most beautiful Secession style buildings of Europe, the Gellért Thermal Baths were built, which were the most modern and recognised centre for balneo-therapeutic treatments.



Walk 3. Art Nouveau Around Budapest City Park, Art Nouveau Network, Budapest

Budapest evolved into a major city during the period of the 1870s to the 1920s. Consequently, the city's architecture is characterised by dominant styles of the period: historicism and Art Nouveau. Outstanding examples of the latter are part of the walk around Budapest City Park, that will give you a view of the city's colourful architecture in the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. Villas of the avenue leading to the City Park show an imprint of numerous European artistic trends. The Egger Villa (Városligeti fasor 24., 1901–1902) designed by Vidor Emil is influenced by Belgian-French Art Nouveau. Kőrössi Albert Kálmán designed his own home (Városligeti fasor 47., 1899–1900) in view of French architectural trends and the German Jugendstil. The Protestant church (Városligeti fasor 5., 1911–1913) designed by Árkay Aladár is a prominent universal artwork representing the period's sacred architecture in Hungary. Ceramic ornaments influenced by folk art are products of the famous Zsolnay factory, and its painted glass windows were made by Róth Miksa, renowned artist of the period. The Sonnenberg-house (Munkácsy Mihály utca 23., 1904) windows, destroyed after the war were also designed by Róth Miksa; thanks to a civil initiative, reconstructions of three of them can be seen in the building today.



Walk 4. Follow the Iron Age Route in the Heart of Budapest, Iron Age Route, Budapest

The archaeological guided tour starts at the northern foot of Gellért Hill and leads to the plateau with a breathtaking view once crowned by a Celtic oppidum, a power centre associated with the local tribe of Eravisci. After a 90-minute walk, explorers can enjoy a refreshing Iron Age-inspired drink at the Hungarian National Museum and immerse themselves in the ancient world through unique artefacts. The walk crosses the remains of ancient earthen fortifications and terraces dated to the 1st century BC. The spectacular place, with remains of a Late Bronze Age fortified settlement that reached its heydays in the Celtic period, rises 130 metres above the Danube. From there, we descend on the southern slopes to the foot of the hill, where archaeological excavations unearthed settlement features belonging to a once flourishing oppidum and coin hoard. Our route crosses the Danube by the hill, a traditional fording place over the river from prehistoric times. Following the Route, our guided tour arrives at the Hungarian National Museum, where visitors will hear mesmerising stories about enigmatic Iron Age objects from the site and other regions in Hungary. Finally, our guests will have time to freely explore the Museum's historic building and amazing collections.



Film Premiere, European Route of Historic Gardens

- Free programme
- Duration: Saturday, 28 September, 19:30–21:00
- Language: English
- Location: Budapest, Urania National Film Theatre (1088 Budapest, Rákóczi Street 21.)
- Organised by the Hungarian Garden Heritage Foundation

Film premiere of the film series by the Hungarian Garden Heritage Foundation, member of the European Route of Historic Gardens.

The series of 26 minutes' episodes present garden heritage, an integral part of the Hungarian Culture, by guiding the viewer over each site through a chain of the theme's most important aspects. It is not a sequence of travelogues but a presentation of the main theme reflected through series of exciting, interesting, beautiful and moments.

Each episode is a presentation of an individual element of garden heritage both visually and in content, but the series of episodes constitute a comprehensive whole that help us understand characteristic relations between garden and Society.

Programme

- 19:30 – Welcome speeches
- 19:45 – Film screening
- 21:00 – Reception



OPTIONAL CULTURAL AND TOURISTIC PROGRAMMES: BUDAPEST, GÖDÖLLŐ, EGER

SATURDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER

Proposed by the Hungarian Tourism Agency

Registration fees apply: to be borne by participants.

Budapest City Tour

- Price: 108 EUR/person
- Departure time: Saturday, 28 September, 09:30
- Duration: 3–4 hours
- Language: English
- Pick- up: Hotel, Budapest
- Drop- off: City centre, Budapest
- Organised by the Hungarian Tourism Agency
- The price includes: English speaking guide, bus, entrance fee of Fisherman's Bastion and Matthias Church, taxes, and free pick-up service 30 minutes (from your hotel in Budapest) before the tour starts (09:00). The price is valid in case of booking at least 10 people. If the number of guests are less than 10 people, we contact you, and send our individual price.

The Tour begins with the impressive Heroes' Square a walk in the City Park, passing by the House of Music Hungary and the Museum of Ethnography. The tour bus will pass by the famous Széchenyi Thermal Bath, the Budapest Zoo and the picturesque Vajdahunyad Castle. The tour continues along Andrásy Avenue with the Opera House and St. Stephen's Basilica. After crossing the Danube River through the Elisabeth Bridge the Buda tour touches the Central Market Hall and the largest Synagogue of Europe. We stop in the Castle District for a short walk of the main attractions; the Matthias Church and the Fishermen's Bastion with a wonderful view of the River and the Pest-side of the city.



Gödöllő – Grassalkovich Mansion

- Price: 125 EUR/person
- Departure time: Saturday, 28 September, 13:00
- Duration: 4 hours
- Language: English
- Pick- up: Hotel, Budapest
- Drop- off: City centre, Budapest
- Organised by the Hungarian Tourism Agency
- The price includes: English speaking guide, bus, entrance fee of the permanent exhibition (The Era of the Grassalkovich, Royal apartments, Queen Elisabeth memorial exhibition, “Centuries, Inhabitants, Stories” – the 20th century history of the palace), coffee and cake, and free pick-up service 30 minutes (from your hotel in Budapest) before the tour starts (12:30). The price is valid in case of booking at least 10 people. If the number of guests are less than 10 people, we contact you, and send our individual price.

The City of Gödöllő is only a 30-minute drive from Budapest. The Grassalkovich Mansion, better known as the former summer residence of Queen Elisabeth was constructed by Antal Grassalkovich in the 18th century. King Franz Joseph and Elisabeth (Sisi) received the castle as a coronation gift in 1867. It soon became the Queen’s favourite summer residence.

The tour of the Museum and the English park gives us a glimpse of life in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the everyday life of the royal couple; Franz Joseph and Queen Elisabeth, and the noble Grassalkovich dynasty.

The visit ends with a cup of coffee and cake in the pastry shop.



Eger

- Price: 210 EUR/person
- Departure time: Saturday, 28 September, 09:00
- Duration: 8 hours
- Language: English
- Pick- up: Hotel, Budapest
- Drop- off: City centre, Budapest
- Organised by the Hungarian Tourism Agency
- The price includes: English speaking guide, bus, entrance fee of the Cathedral Basilica and Eger Castle, Lunch (3-course menu, 5 types of wine with wine tasting). The price includes free pick-up service 30 minutes (from your hotel in Budapest) before the tour starts (08:30). The price is valid in case of booking at least 10 people. If the number of guests are less than 10 people, we contact you, and send our individual price.

Eger, second largest city in the north of Hungary, the land of the *Egri Bikavér* (Bull's Blood wine) is one and a half hours' bus drive from Budapest. You will get to stroll along the impressive Baroque streets visiting sights such as the Basilica and 17th-Century Minaret, the northernmost Turkish minaret in Europe. We will wander down Széchenyi Street and Dobó István Square with the Minorite Church and the splendid Baroque and Rococo houses. We will admire the famous 16th-century Eger fortress, that took a glorious part in Hungarian history during the Ottoman occupation. The visit ends with lunch and wine tasting in the nearby *Szépasszony völgy* (Beautiful Lady's Valley).

