

13th ANNUAL ADVISORY FORUM

Visegrád, Hungary 25–27 September 2024



13TH ANNUAL ADVISORY FORUM ON CULTURAL ROUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE *Visegrád, Hungary, 25-27 September 2024*

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE HUNGARIAN OPEN AIR MUSEUM

Table of contents

Introduction	3
Visa requirements.....	3
Currency	3
Travel	3
By plane	3
By train.....	4
By bus	4
Local transportation.....	4
Transport provided	4
Public transportation	5
Accommodation	5
Hotel locations.....	7
Restaurants in Visegrád	7
Forum Venues.....	8
Visegrád	8
Thermal Hotel Visegrád (Forum Venue)	9
Tourist Sites in Visegrád.....	9
The Hungarian Open Air Museum	10
Budapest Conference Boat	11
Pesti Vigadó, Budapest	12
Meals	12
Languages.....	12
Health	12
Emergency Numbers	13
Weather.....	13
Contact	13

Introduction

The Annual Advisory Forum is a meeting of representatives of Member States and Observers of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe, Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe and candidate networks, International Organisations, Universities and academic institutions as well as stakeholders from cultural, heritage and tourism sectors and is the most important and significant annual event of the Cultural Routes programme. This year's Forum will be held in Hungary, in the city of Visegrád, on 25-27 September.

Visa requirements

Participants requiring a visa must contact competent diplomatic or consular authorities of the Republic of Hungary and apply for a Schengen short-stay (C-type) visa at least three weeks (15 working days) prior to their intended date of arrival in Visegrád. In countries where the Republic of Hungary does not have diplomatic or consular representation, visa applications may be submitted to the consular authority of a State party to the Schengen Agreement acting on behalf of the Republic of Hungary in the country concerned. For more information visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade website: <https://konzinfo.mfa.gov.hu/en/how-apply-visa>

Currency

The forint (HUF) is the official currency and legal tender of Hungary. The current euro to forint exchange rate is approximately EUR 1 = HUF 390.

Travel

Participants are requested to make their own travel arrangements to get to Hungary.

Please note that travel and accommodation expenses shall be borne by participants.

By plane

The nearest airport is Liszt Ferenc International Airport (BUD) in Budapest, the main international airport of Hungary: <https://www.bud.hu/en>. It is located 65 km from the Forum venue in Visegrád and 15 km from the city center of Budapest. To get from the Airport to Visegrád, you can use public transport or taxi. Transfer from the Airport to Visegrád by car takes approximately 1 hour 10 minutes. Visegrád taxi services offer an airport transfer price. If you want to use public transport, the best way is to transfer to *Nyugati pályaudvar* (Western Railway Station) and take a train to Visegrád.

Public transport provides easy access to the Budapest city centre. The bus stops are located on the Airport arrivals level, between the two terminals. Bus line 100E Airport Express provides a direct, convenient, and fast connection between Liszt Ferenc International Airport and Deák

Ferenc Square, a key transport hub on the Pest side of the city. Bus line 200E operates day and night between Terminal 2 and *Kőbánya-Kispest* metro station (<https://bkk.hu/en/travel-information/>).

Főtaxi, the taxi company with the longest traditions (founded in 1913) in Hungary transports passengers between the terminals and Visegrád or Budapest. Főtaxi's several hundred cars, trained and experienced drivers ensure a safe basis to satisfy passengers' needs at a high standard (<https://fotaxi.hu/en/>).

By train

Budapest has three main railway stations (called „pályaudvar” in Hungarian) to serve the needs of national and international travellers: the *Keleti*, the *Nyugati* and the *Déli* railway stations. Trains from other countries arrive at one of these stations. For timetable and information about purchase please visit the website (<https://www.mavcsoport.hu/en>) or call MÁVDIREKT Customer Service: Telephone: +36 (1) 3 49 49 49.

From *Nyugati Pályaudvar* you can take a train to Visegrád. There is a regular train line between Budapest and Nagymaros station, and the ferry boat pier is a 3-minute walk from Nagymaros station. The boat operates every hour between Nagymaros and Visegrád.

By bus

Budapest *Népliget* Bus Station is the main bus station in Budapest for international and long-distance buses. It is located in the south-eastern part of the city, about 10 minutes by metro from the city centre of Budapest. The Hungarian name of the station listed in the bus timetables, is *Népliget Volánbusz Pályaudvar*. The station's address is 1091 Budapest, Üllői út 131. The largest bus operators include Volánbusz (<https://www.volanbusz.hu/en>), the Hungarian member of Eurolines, other Eurolines services and other international coach companies such as Flixbus or Regiojet. Current timetables of the Flixbus company are available at <https://www.flixbus.hu>

You may also take bus Number 880 from *Budapest Városkapu* station along the M3 metro line, to Visegrád. Travel time is approximately 75 minutes.

Local transportation

Transport provided

Meeting points will be set up near the recommended hotels to transfer Forum participants from their hotels to the Forum venue in the mornings of September 25, 26 and 27. Also, transfer is provided back to their accommodations after dinner. In addition, transport is organised for all participants from the Forum venue to the cultural programme venue on 25 September, to *Szentendre* on 26 September, and to the closing ceremony venue in Budapest on 27 September.

Public transportation

Hosts provide transport for participants between the programme venues of the Forum. In addition, most attractions and restaurants in Visegrád city centre are within walking distance, for longer distances bus number 880 is recommended. Bus tickets can be purchased on the bus with payment cash.

Accommodation

Participants are required to provide for their accommodation on their own. Please find below information on Visegrád hotels with rooms pre-booked for Forum participants. Should you wish to book a room, please contact directly by e-mail your preferred hotel. Reservations at the hotels listed below should be made using the code provided in the invitation email.

Please note that the Thermal Hotel Visegrád, also the venue of the Forum itself, offers the largest number of rooms. Due to the busy autumn season in Visegrád, the deadline for discounted hotel bookings is 15 August.

Please note that travel and accommodation expenses shall be borne by participants.

Thermal Hotel Visegrád****superior

(FORUM VENUE)

Lepence-völgy 2., 2025 Visegrád

Reservation: info@thv.hu

Price: 49.900 HUF for single BB,
60.900 HUF for TWIN/DBL BB

With access to thermal pools, tepidariums
and sauna.



Royal Club Hotel****superior

15. Duna-parti St., 2025 Visegrád

Reservation: info@royalclubhotel.hu

Price:- 5% Rack Rate



Hotel Visegrád****

15. Rév St., 2025 Visegrád

Reservation: info@hotelvisegrad.hu

Price: 38.200 HUF for single BB,
55.100 HUF for twin/double BB



Patak Park Hotel***

82. Mátyás király St., 2025 Visegrád

Reservation: info@patakhotel.hu

Price: 39.900 HUF for single BB,
43.900 HUF for twin/double BB



Butikhotel Visegrád***

61. Mátyás király St., 2025 Visegrád

Reservation: info@butikhotelvisegrad.hu

Price: 38.000 HUF for single BB,
49.000 HUF for Twin/double BB



Vendégház a Táborkokhoz

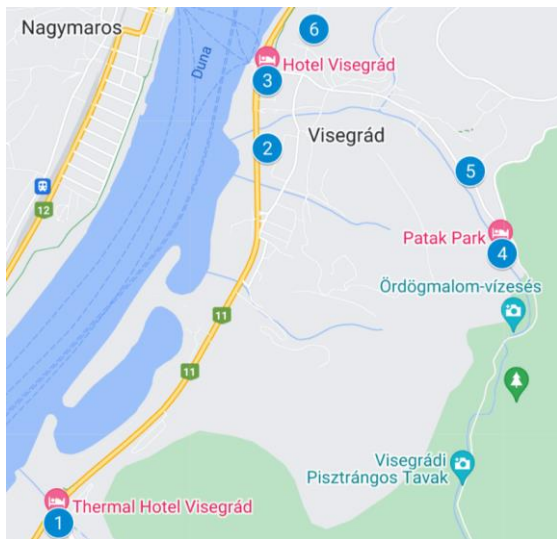
Cozy and unique Guest House
67/A Fő St., 2025 Visegrád

Reservation:
info@vendeghazatabornokhoz.hu

Price: from 32.000 HUF apartment with
twin /double (breakfast not included)
49.000 HUF apartment with 2 bedrooms
for 4 persons



Hotel locations



- 1 Thermal Hotel Visegrád
- 2 Royal Club Hotel Visegrád
- 3 Hotel Visegrád
- 4 Patak Park Hotel
- 5 Butikhotel Visegrád
- 6 Vendégház a Táborkhoz

Restaurants in Visegrád

Renaissance Restaurant

11. Fő St., 2025 Visegrád

Hungarian Renaissance-style restaurant

Tel.: +36 20 277 3445

E-mail: info@renvisegrad.hu

Open: daily 12 am–10 pm



Sirály Restaurant

15. Rév St., 2025 Visegrád

Hungarian and international dishes

Tel.: +36 26 398 376

E-mail: info@siralyvisegrad.hu

Open: daily 7:30 am–10 pm



Nagy-Villám Restaurant
Feketehegy., 2025 Visegrád

Tel.: +36 26 398 070
+36 30 278 3253,
E-mail: info@nagyvillam.hu
www.nagyvillam.hu
Open: 11:30 am–4 pm



Don-Vito Pizzeria
83. Fő St., 2025 Visegrád

Italian Restaurant

Tel.: +36 26 397 230
E-mail: visegraddonvito@gmail.com
www.don-vito.hu
Open: daily 11 am–9 pm



Kovács-Kert Restaurant
4. Rév St., 2025 Visegrád

Tel.: +36 26 398 123
www.kovacs-kertetterem.hu
Open: daily 12 am–9 pm



Forum Venues

Visegrád

Visegrád, the stronghold of tourism on the Danube Bend, is visited by almost two million people every year. The city always had an important place both in Hungarian and European history, and it has a rich architectural and intangible cultural heritage. It offers a variety of programmes throughout the year: sporting activities, cultural events, interactive attractions, performances and festivals evoking the glorious moments of medieval Hungary.



Thermal Hotel Visegrád (Forum Venue)

The Annual Advisory Forum 2024 will take place at the Thermal Hotel Visegrád****superior. The Hotel is located by the picturesque Danube Bend, in a calm, friendly environment, in the neighbourhood of the Pilis Forests, only 40 kilometres from downtown Budapest. The Lepence Spa wellness centre in the hotel offers a unique atmosphere with 7 swimming pools, a sauna park, thermal waters and a tepidarium on almost 3000 square metres.



Tourist Sites in Visegrád

The Citadel

The Citadel – commonly referred to as ‘the Visegrád castle’ – is perhaps the most emblematic mediaeval building in Hungary. The first stones of the Citadel rising on the top of Castle Hill were laid on the rocky peak – accessible only with difficulty – in 1250, and it became one of the

most important Hungarian castles for three centuries. The Holy Crown and the Royal Insignia were kept here for several periods.

The Royal Palace

It is well-known that Italy is the eternal centre of Renaissance. It is less known though that the palace reconstructed by King Matthias between 1476 and 1490; the first building of Renaissance art outside Italy, fascinated the whole of contemporary Europe. The royal residence, originally built by Charles I of Anjou, became a sumptuous palace thanks to its reconstruction by Luis the Great and Sigismund of Luxemburg. In the 14th century the building was not only the royal family's residence, but a seat of governmental organisations as well as the location of chivalry. King Matthias Hunyadi had the palace renewed by Italian and Hungarian masters in the late Gothic and Renaissance style.

The Solomon Tower

Béla IV built a double castle system after the Mongol invasion. The Lower Castle is commonly known as the Solomon Tower. King Solomon reigned from 1063 to 1074. As a result of struggles for the throne, he became Ladislaus' prisoner, and was only granted pardon in 1083. In the court of the Lower Castle, a bell foundry worked at the age of Luis I, where one of the largest bells in contemporary Europe was cast.

Natural environment

The Visegrád Mountains is one of the most beautiful national parks in Hungary, shaped by volcanic events. It served as the hunting area for the medieval kings of Hungary. Today you may relax on the silent shore of the River Danube and enjoy the refreshing green surroundings.

The Hungarian Open Air Museum

The Hungarian Open Air Museum undertakes the research of folk architecture, interior furnishings and way of life, and the collection of tangible and intangible relics in the Hungarian language territory. With its research and collection work it takes part in the protection of Hungary's varied, multi-ethnic and religious cultural heritage and the social and cultural development of the settlements. With the help of its exhibitions, publications, digital content, museum education and recreation programmes, by the representation of material culture, way of life and traditions and by the mediation of theoretical knowledge and practical information adaptable in everyday life, it helps a better understanding and usage of folk traditions and contributes to the popularization of Hungarian national culture at a national and an international level, and the mediation of a sustainable lifestyle based on museum knowledge.

For more information, please visit the museum website: <https://skanzen.hu/en>



Budapest Conference Boat

The Budapest conference boat is the flagship of MAHART PassNave Ltd., the largest and most technically equipped conference boat in the fleet. Its interiors are characterised by modern elegance and sophistication, with a colour palette of drapery and shades of grey.



Pesti Vigadó, Budapest

The building of outstanding beauty has been a unique venue of exquisite dance and musical events for the Budapest public since it was opened in 1865. Highly acclaimed composers, such as Liszt, Wagner, Brahms, Debussy, Dohnányi or Bartók appeared in its concert hall. The building, seriously damaged during the Second World War was reopened in 1980. Today the Vigadó, situated on the banks of the River Danube, is one of Budapest's sights and also a venue of art shows, exhibitions, concerts, theatrical events as well as a popular filming location. Its sixth-floor-Panorama Terrace opening to the Danube provides an unique view of the Buda Castle and the Citadel.



For more information on the cultural programme in Visegrad, please visit: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/cultural-routes/2024-visegrad-forum>

Meals

During the Forum, coffee breaks, two lunches and three dinners will be provided to all participants. Meals will be provided in accordance with the dietary requirements specified in the Forum registration form to be completed by all participants.

Languages

Simultaneous interpretation of the Forum sessions into English, French and Hungarian will be provided.

Health

In the event of emergency health issues, first medical aid is assured for Forum participants. All potential costs arising from a medical treatment, however, will have to be covered by the

participants themselves. International medical insurance covering major medical expenses should be purchased prior to arriving to Hungary. We encourage EU citizens to provide for their European Health Insurance Cards.

Emergency Numbers

General emergency number: 112

Police: 107

Fire Department: 105

Emergency Medical Services: 104

Emergency Medical Service in Pest county: 1830

Weather

Hungary is situated in a temperate zone, and has a continental climate. September is the beginning of the Fall season. The days are still warm so expect plenty of pleasant, sunny days with an average temperature of 17°C. Both highs and lows decrease greatly in the course of the month, respectively from 24°C to 19°C or from 13°C to 9°C. Since the days are relatively warm, lightweight clothes are recommended, but it can get a little frosty at night so light sweaters, autumn coats and warmer layers would work perfectly when the sun goes down. September receives 70mm of rainfall, there are 11 days with precipitation this month. The most common types of precipitation are moderate rain and light rain, respectively occurring on 45% and 31% of the days with rainfall.

Contact

If you have any questions and need more information about the practical information of the Visegrád Forum please contact the local organisers at visegrad.forum@skanzen.hu.