

# What You Should Know Before Visiting Budapest

## 1. Overview of Budapest

Budapest, the capital of Hungary, is a vibrant city known for its rich history, stunning architecture, and dynamic cultural scene. Divided by the Danube River into Buda and Pest, the city offers a unique blend of old-world charm and modern sophistication, making it an ideal destination for both business and leisure.

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## 2. Travel and Entry Requirements

- **Visa:** Hungary is part of the Schengen Area. Ensure your passport is valid for at least 3 months beyond your planned departure.
  - **Airport:** Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport (BUD) is the main international gateway, located about 16 km from the city center.
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## 3. Weather in October

October in Budapest is autumnal, with average temperatures ranging from **(46°F to 61°F)**. Rain is possible, so pack a light waterproof jacket and layers for varying temperatures.

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## 4. Currency and Payments

- **Currency:** Hungarian Forint (HUF). Credit cards are widely accepted, but it is advisable to carry some cash for smaller establishments.
  - **Tipping:** A 10–15% tip is customary in restaurants and for services.
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## 5. Transportation

- **Public Transport:** Budapest has an efficient metro, tram, and bus system. Purchase a travel card for convenience.
  - **Taxis:** Use official taxi services or ride-hailing apps like Bolt. Avoid unmarked taxis.
  - **Walking:** The city center is pedestrian-friendly and scenic.
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## 8. Safety and Health

- Budapest is safe, but exercise standard precautions, especially in crowded areas.
  - Emergency number: **112**
  - Pharmacies are well-stocked, and staff often speak English.
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## 9. Connectivity

- Free Wi-Fi is available in many public areas and hotels.
  - Consider purchasing a local SIM card or an international roaming plan for reliable mobile data.
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## 10. Useful Hungarian Phrases

- Hello: *Szia* (SEE-ya)
- Thank you: *Köszönöm* (KÖ-sö-nöm)
- Yes/No: *Igen/Nem*
- Do you speak English? *Beszél angolul?*